

# STARS AND STRIPES.®

Volume 73, No. 141 © SS 2014

MIDEAST EDITION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014

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Free to Deployed Areas

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# A GIANT AMONG MEN

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Posey celebrate  
after winning the  
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DAVID ELLIOTT, KANSAS  
CITY (Mo.) STAFF/MCT

## Bumgarner leads San Francisco to dynasty status

BACK PAGE

## Pentagon developing Ebola quarantine measures

By CHRIS CARROLL  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Troops who deploy to Africa to fight Ebola will likely return to their home bases before they undergo 21 days of quarantine, including those from a number of major installations in the United States.

And simply passing through the

Ebola zone in West Africa, or making a quick flight in and out, isn't enough to require quarantine.

Military planners are working out the details of the Ebola quarantine order Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel issued Wednesday, but some broad measures have already emerged from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, which must deliver an implementation plan within about two weeks.

"We're developing that now, and some of it we already know," Air Force Col. Edward W. Thomas Jr., spokesman for Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey, said Thursday.

One returning group already has been placed in what the Pentagon calls "enhanced monitoring" at their home base.

SEE QUARANTINE ON PAGE 9

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This is having a very serious impact on the way we live our lives."

— Emily May, of an anti-street harassment organization, on comments women receive from strangers.

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2. USFK bans buying drinks for 'juicy bar' workers
3. Fox News to air interview with Navy SEAL who says he killed bin Laden
4. Dead Ramstein airman identified
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## EUROPE

# NATO responds to Russian flyovers

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

**STUTTGART, Germany** — Russian jets are conducting a growing number of patrols near NATO territory, prompting a spike in the intercepts carried out by alliance aircraft this year and raising concerns about air traffic safety, alliance officials said.

Since Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula in March, Russian aircraft have increased their activity near Russia's borders with NATO, according to the 28-nation alliance. In the past two days, Russian aircraft formations have grown in size, prompting NATO to scramble multiple fighters in response.

"These sizable Russian flights represent an unusual level of air activity over European airspace," Lt. Col. Jay Janzen, a spokesman with Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Mons, Belgium, said in a statement.

So far this year, NATO has conducted more than 100 intercepts of Russian aircraft, which is three times more than were conducted in all of 2013, according to NATO. In response to Russia's increased activity in the region, NATO has beefed up its air policing mission in the Baltics from four to 16 jets.

Scrambles and intercepts are standard air policing procedure when an unknown aircraft nears NATO airspace. However, NATO officials say flights over international airspace also pose a potential risk to civil aviation since the Russian military often do not file flight plans and fly with their on-board transponders turned off, making them invisible to civilian air traffic control.

On Wednesday, NATO radars detected and tracked eight Russian aircraft flying in formation over the North Sea. In response, F-16 aircraft from the Royal Norwegian Air Force were scrambled to shadow the formation that included four Tu-95 Bear H strategic bombers and four Il-78 tanker aircraft.

Six of the Russian aircraft then turned back to the northeast toward Russia, while two of the bombers continued southwest, parallel to the Norwegian coast, NATO said in a statement.

That set off a series of NATO in-

### Increased Russian air activity

In the past two days NATO detected at least 19 Russian aircraft in international airspace. NATO has conducted over 100 intercepts of Russian aircraft in 2014 to date, which is about three times as many as were conducted in 2013.



SOURCE: NATO

GENE THOMP/THE WASHINGTON POST

tercepts from multiple countries as alliance fighters monitored the two Russian aircraft, which traveled over the North Sea and over the Atlantic Ocean west of Portugal before turning north for the west coast of the United Kingdom. By late Wednesday, the Russian aircraft appeared to be headed back to Russia, NATO said. F-16s from the Portuguese air force and British Typhoons were scrambled while military radar tracked the movements of the Russians.

"The bomber and tanker aircraft from Russia did not file flight plans or maintain radio contact with civilian air traffic control authorities, and they were not using on-board transponders," NATO stated.

Also on Wednesday, NATO radars detected and tracked four Russian aircraft — two Tu-95s and two Su-27 Flanker fighter jets

— flying over the Black Sea in international airspace. Turkish air force fighter jets intercepted the planes, NATO said.

The Russian air force routinely uses its Tu-95s, powered by massive counter-rotating turboprops, for long-range maritime reconnaissance and search-and-rescue patrols. Like the B-52 Stratofortress, its U.S. counterpart from the 1950s, the Bear has been continuously modernized and upgraded and is expected to remain in service for another two decades.

Meanwhile, German Typhoon aircraft on Tuesday intercepted seven Russian fighters flying in international airspace over the Baltic Sea. In that case, Russian aircraft had filed a flight plan and were using transponders, but did not maintain contact with civilian air control as is standard protocol, NATO reported.

A German air force spokesman said allies have grown accustomed to scrambling jets in response to Russian activity, but said what is unusual in recent instances is the size and scope of the Russian formations.

"The special character of this situation was that we not just had to deal with one, but with seven, planes," the German spokesman said.

Russia maintains a major air force base in Kaliningrad, home to Russia's Baltic fleet, and training flights are routine in the region. NATO officials have stated they don't oppose Russian maneuvers in international airspace but that they should follow flight protocols such as filing flight plans and making their movements visible to civil air traffic control.

Marcus Klöckner contributed to this story.  
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## WAR/MILITARY

# From victims to 'stars'



PHOTOS BY MASSOUD HOSSAINI/AP

Players from Balkh province, in white, celebrate Tuesday during a match against the team from Herat province in Afghanistan's national wheelchair basketball tournament organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kabul, Afghanistan.

## Afghanistan war amputees find new life, pride in sports

BY LYNNE O'DONNELL  
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — From her wheelchair, Maryam Samimi punched the air as the referee's whistle signaled her basketball team's win in an Afghan national tournament, a moment of joy in a country often unkind to those missing limbs.

Many amputees in Afghanistan languish without access to care and become depressed and isolated. And with mines and unexploded ordnance still scattered across this country ravaged by decades of nonstop war, more will be maimed from explosions.

However, an International Committee of the Red Cross program offering sports to amputees has seen hundreds sign up to play wheelchair basketball.

"From my experience, I know that when you lose a part of your body, big or small, for the first month, you don't want to be alive anymore. You don't want to see the future, everything stops," said Shukrullah Zeerak, a supervising physiotherapist at an ICRC center who lost his right leg below the knee in a mine blast in 1995. "But slowly you adapt; you survive."

Afghanistan is often described as one big minefield, with experts estimating that 10 million mines — mostly from the former Soviet Union but also from the United States, Britain, Belgium and Italy — have been dropped or laid across the country. The explosives, including those planted by the Taliban, continue to kill and maim.

Some 40,500 amputees have registered with the ICRC's Orthopedic Project in Afghanistan since 1988. Of that figure, 67



A Balkh province player shoots the ball Tuesday during a match against the team from Herat province in Afghanistan's national wheelchair basketball tournament.

percent are victims of mines and 76 percent are civilians, statistics of war that has lasted more than 30 years and which, even as most of the U.S.-led foreign combat forces are withdrawing, shows no sign of ending. The true number of amputees living in Afghanistan is likely even higher.

Four years ago, the ICRC decided to recruit amputees for sports teams as a way to help them both physically and mentally. Now, hundreds of amputees play wheel-

chair basketball in teams in six of the country's 34 provinces, with the best of them playing in the national league.

"They become stars that they wouldn't have been if they hadn't been disabled," Zeerak said.

Jess Markt, of Boulder, Colo., served as a referee at the national tournament. He has been traveling to Afghanistan to coach wheelchair basketball players since 2009 and now spends up to four months per year



Players cheer Tuesday during the wheelchair basketball tournament organized in Kabul.

in the country. At home, he plays point guard for the Denver Rolling Nuggets in the National Wheelchair Basketball Association and coaches the women's team.

Markt compared Afghanistan with the United States after World War II, when people with disabilities who had been marginalized from society began organizing activities that are now, like the Paralympics, part of mainstream sport.

"This is changing society," he said. And for Samimi, who lost both her feet above the ankle after stepping on a land mine when she was 6, the joy of her Mazar-i-Sharif beating Herat 33-9 wasn't just for the final score.

"I am very happy that we won, but I am happy for them, too," she said.



## PACIFIC

# IG: Hundreds of housing violations on USFK bases

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — An inspector general's report has cited hundreds of potentially dangerous housing code violations, ranging from missing sprinkler systems to exposed copper wiring, in U.S. military housing in South Korea although only 11 were considered serious.

Most of the violations were related to inadequate upkeep of housing facilities, according to the Tuesday report, which found that "housing visits and inspections were not being conducted in accordance with established instructions and procedures."

Twelve percent of the occupied buildings at 13 U.S. Forces Korea military installations — ranging from family housing to barracks and dormitories for unaccompanied servicemembers — were reviewed during the IG's March 10 to April 24 inspections. The checks found 646 deficiencies in 277 units, mechanical rooms and common areas.

The 11 "critical" deficiencies included an out-of-service fire alarm system at U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, which left the occupants of one building with no means of fire detection. Furnaces in two of other buildings at the Seoul base were leaking heating oil onto an electric blower motor, posing a fire hazard.

At Camp Jackson, one building was not electrically grounded according to code, posing the possibility of electrocution. Four buildings at Camp Bonifas lacked carbon monoxide alarms.

An improperly bonded conductor at Camp Stanley posed a

fire, shock and electrocution risk, and four buildings lacked carbon monoxide alarms.

Camp Humphreys had three fire or electrocution risks, including a building that was not grounded per code and an extension drop cord in another that was improperly wired. Energized copper wire was exposed in an elevator equipment room.

The 11 violations were deemed critical enough to require immediate attention; all have been corrected since the spring inspections or were expected to be completed last summer, according to correspondence from installation officials included in the IG report.

"The health and safety of our service members and their families in Korea is a top priority," USFK said in an email. "As a result, the affected service components have taken and continue to take corrective action."

Overall, the IG inspection found poor record keeping and overworked housing workers.

Among the other findings:

■ At U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan, the inspection found a lack of follow-up reports on three housing units previously found to have high radon levels.

■ At U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, mold — a common problem during South Korea's humid summers — was found in housing units due to inconsistent upkeep of air handling and ventilation systems, and no data on levels of radon, a gas linked to lung cancer, were available.

■ Osan Air Base had not addressed elevated radon levels at some buildings, and along with

Camps Walker and Henry, did not have mandated radon reduction programs in place.

■ Osan had only one Airman Dormitory Leader per 340 rooms; the Air Force's maximum ratio is one ADL per 145 rooms. At Kunsan Air Base, each ADL was responsible for an average of more than 200 rooms.

Overall, the report said installation personnel who deal with housing recognize the need for improvements but noted "challenges such as the lack of training, and short deployments, which increased turnover and reduced continuity in housing services. Contributing factors included a lack of translation (English to Korean) of standards, codes, procedures, and instructions, and their implementation."

The IG reiterated a call it made earlier this month in a report on military housing in Japan for the creation of a uniform policy on mold and radon control and remediation.

"Based on our inspection, the significant presence of mold and DoD's current ad hoc approach to radon mitigation places unnecessary risk on the warfighter and their dependents," said a Tuesday memo to top military officials, included in the report. "The OIG DoD firmly believes that serious health hazards such as these need to be addressed at the DoD level."

The under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics disagreed with the recommendation, saying there was no U.S. federal standard for mold and radon.

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MATTHEW M. BURKE/Stars and Stripes

An ambulance arrives on the scene just after 1 p.m. Thursday as a standoff on Okinawa's Camp Lester housing area came to a peaceful end. A lone Marine had barricaded himself in his home Thursday morning.

## Marine barricaded in Camp Lester housing on Okinawa surrenders

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A Marine barricaded himself at his home in Okinawa's Camp Lester housing area Thursday, setting off a standoff with military police that ended peacefully, Marine Corps officials said.

Residents said they were evacuated early Thursday from the isolated cluster of military housing on a hill in the rear of the Marines base and had been told the man had an M-16 rifle.

The scene was secured by emergency personnel and MPs so there was no danger to nearby

homes, neighboring residents or the Camp Lester middle school, which observed normal class hours, Marine officials said.

About a dozen more MPs arrived later as spectators gathered across the street, which was closed off to nonresidents. Toward the end of the standoff, law enforcement officials approached the house on the back of a truck, carrying rifles and wearing body armor and helmets.

A Marine Corps statement said the situation was safely de-escalated by 1 p.m. and the Marine was walked outside.

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## Judge: TEPCO suit over alleged radiation exposure can proceed

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. federal judge has ruled that a class-action lawsuit filed by about 200 Navy sailors and Marines can proceed against Japanese utility TEPCO and other defendants who they blame for a variety of ailments from radiation exposure following a nuclear reactor meltdown 3 1/2 years ago. In a decision released Tuesday, Southern District of California Judge Janis Sammartino ruled that the suit can be amended to add the builders of the Fukushima-Daichi

Nuclear Power Plant reactors — General Electric, EBASCO, Toshiba and Hitachi — as defendants.

Sammartino also denied a change of venue to Japan and dismissed several minor aspects of the suit. The plaintiffs' lawyers have until Nov. 18 to make changes to their filings. "It is not over, but we have won the major battle," lawyer Charles Bonner wrote in an email to his clients that was provided to Stars and Stripes.

"THANK GOD!!!!!!" responded Lindsay Cooper, the first USS Ronald Reagan sailor to come forward and report an illness.

Sammartino's ruling was a bit of a surprise. The Defense Department, including Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Dr. Jonathan Woodson, have concluded that the illnesses are not a result of the servicemembers' work in Operation Tomodachi, in which a massive earthquake on March 11, 2011, spawned a tsunami that swamped the nuclear plant.

The suit was first filed in 2012 by a small group of sailors off the USS Ronald Reagan, who alleged that TEPCO's misinformation coaxed U.S. forces closer to the affected areas and made them sick. More ailing ser-

vicemembers came forward citing exposure-related ailments such as unexplained cancers, excessive bleeding and thyroid issues. The suit has been refilled a number of times, adding plaintiffs and, more recently, additional defendants.

TEPCO tried to have the case dismissed. Oral arguments were presented Aug. 25.

Bonner and a fellow attorney for the sailors, Paul Garner, said additional plaintiffs are continuing to come forward with "serious ailments from radiation," according to a statement released by the legal team.

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## MILITARY

# 'Value Brand' key to DeCA's revival plans

By TOM PHILPOTT

The Defense Commissary Agency faced a tough operating environment in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30 as sales fell by 4.3 percent.

The drop was due in part to commissaries closing for six days during a government shutdown last fall. But patrons also saw the worth of their benefit debated for months after the Obama administration proposed cutting DeCA's annual appropriation of \$1.4 billion to \$400 million by 2017, with the idea that average shopper savings of 31 percent could be pared by one third.

Congress rejected the plan this year, but commissaries are expected to be targeted again in the 2016 defense budget to be unveiled next February.

On Tuesday, in a speech to the American Logistics Association's annual convention in Washington, DeCA Director Joseph H. Jett shared his plan for marching past budget uncertainty with fresh action to sustain the benefit including a full-throttle modernization of its business operations over the next five years.

"There's been a lot of bad publicity," Jett said after his speech. "But the point is, now we have a lot of good things going on."

Jett reviewed for vendors and brokers a host of initiatives to enrich the shopping experience worldwide, including a new "Value Brand" program to take effect this November. Shelves worldwide will be stocked with 350 brand name

goods priced to match or to fall below prices of generic or "private label" products being sold by commercial grocers outside the gate.

Discounts on Value Brand items, to be identified with bright orange shelf tags, could be as much as 50 percent below private label, Jett said. The average added savings across all Value Brand items will be about 20 percent, he said, and that's below normal commissary discounts.

"We are really excited about this," Jett told attendees.

Though Jett refused to confirm it, the Value Brand initiative appears to have been sparked by controversial testimony last May of Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr., the Joint Chiefs vice chairman, before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

In defending the plan to cut the commissary subsidy and to freeze up \$1 billion a year by 2017 to protect training and readiness, Winnefeld argued that commissaries could be run more efficiently. At one point he recounted his recent experience shopping for ibuprofen and finding a dramatically better price at a commercial grocery chain store.

Winnefeld said the commercial grocer sold ibuprofen for \$4.49 under a private label while the commissary price was \$7.98 for a brand name, just a dollar or less than the brand name sold off base. Winnefeld used that to urge Congress to drop a requirement that commissaries stock only recognizable brand name goods.

Hours after his testimony, lobbyists

## MILITARY UPDATE

for the military resale community let it be known the four-star officer had his facts wrong. Had Winnefeld shopped more carefully, he would have found the Good Sense brand of ibuprofen, in 100-tablet bottles, selling at the commissary for only \$2.39.

Jett didn't reference that in discussing the Value Brand rollout with industry representatives. They knew the issue well, however, because Winnefeld's ibuprofen story had caused headaches for defenders of the commissary benefit.

Jett did explain that more than a decade ago DeCA had launched a "very similar" program to compete with private labels called Best Value Items. But it wasn't explained well to patrons and lost momentum, he said. Value Brand "re-energizes" the concept by clearly defining that the orange tag means a price equal to or below private label. Also, every Value Brand item will be stocked next to a recognizable national brand so shoppers "can compare prices to see the value."

Initially the items will span 30 product categories including cereal, peanut butter, canned seafood, detergent, paper products and health care items. By January, up to 15 more categories will

be added.

"So this program is going to grow not only in emphasis but in variety as well as number of items" Jett said.

He acknowledged that budget challenges remain. The administration sought a cut of \$200 million in commissary funds for fiscal 2015 and also a change in law to allow DeCA to begin to mark up prices "to make up the difference."

The Senate committee rejected the first year cut entirely. The House-passed version of the defense bill accepted only half of it, but directs DeCA to absorb the \$100 million cut without raising prices, and to hire a grocery industry expert to study the impact on patrons of making far deeper cuts to commissary funding.

Despite a "disappointing" drop in store sales in fiscal 2014, Jett said DeCA has many initiatives to increase customer traffic. Besides Value Brand it has begun "lot product" sales, popular with customers seeking deeper savings.

To increase the number of items purchased per customer, DeCA is urging vendors to offer more multi-purchase discounts, incentives and packaging.

"All those things will encourage people to buy maybe multiple items versus just the one item they are thinking about buying," Jett said.

In January, commissaries began scanning patron ID cards at entrances. Besides verifying shopping eligibility, DeCA is using the scans to collect data on

customers including rank, family size and whether they are active duty, retiree, reserve component member or dependent.

Personal identifiable information is not collected, Jett said. DeCA wants the data it collects in order to better understand and serve patrons, he said.

DeCA also has a consultant conducting a branding study to advise on how to create a "commissary culture" that would be valued by patrons, consistent across all stores and delivers a "constant brand experience" shoppers value. The research involves focus groups with patrons, meetings with managers and tag-along shopping, Jett said.

Early findings are that "the commissary is really more than a grocery store. It provides a sense of military community," Jett said.

Commissaries also are moving into e-commerce with development a secure "commissary app" to shop by smart phones and other mobile devices. Soon, he said, patrons will be able to review all commissary prices remotely, order groceries electronically and pick up full shopping orders at commissary docks.

Sales data from patrons testing this "click-and-go" technology and digital coupons at select commissaries show they spend almost three times as much per shopping trip as patrons pushing carts in the stores, Jett said.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 2311, Centerville, VA 20120, email mlupdate@aol.com or Twitter: Tom Philpott @MilitaryUpdate.

## 2 men are convicted in scheme to sell silencers

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A Navy intelligence official and a California hot-rod mechanic were found guilty Wednesday on federal conspiracy charges stemming from a mysterious scheme to manufacture hundreds of AK-47 rifle silencers for a secret military project.

Lee M. Hall, a civilian Navy intelligence official at the Pentagon, and Mark S. Landersman, the mechanic, were convicted of conspiring to build 349 untraceable silencers — without a firearms license — and shipping them across state lines for a sensitive mission that was never fully explained in court.

U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkman, who delivered the verdicts after bench trials in Alexandria, Va., said she was unconvinced by defense attorneys' assertions that the silencers were needed for a clandestine purpose and were necessarily obtained outside of normal channels. "I do not accept the argument that because this might have been covert, that somehow that excuses the participants from playing by the rules," she said.

Prosecutors had argued that

the silencer contract was a \$1.6 million sweetheart deal intended to enrich Landersman, a struggling auto mechanic and machinist from Temecula, Calif.

His brother, David Landersman, served as Hall's boss at the Pentagon as the senior director for intelligence in an obscure Navy office. Prosecutors have accused David Landersman of masterminding the contract to help his brother, who had been mired in bankruptcy. He has been labeled an unindicted co-conspirator in the case but has not been charged.

According to trial testimony, Hall and the Landersman brothers went to unusual lengths to conceal the silencer purchase from other Navy officials and contracting representatives. Three Navy officials said they had approved David Landersman's request to spend the money on intelligence studies, not a weapons deal.

Hall later told another Navy official that the silencers were intended for Navy SEAL Team 6. Representatives for SEAL Team 6 told agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service that they had not ordered the silencers and didn't know anything about them.

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## MILITARY

# Report: Troops to get checked for chemical exposure

DOD to offer medical exams to soldiers and veterans exposed to chemical agents in Iraq

Stars and Stripes

The Pentagon will offer medical examinations and long-term health monitoring to servicemembers and veterans exposed to chemical warfare agents in Iraq as part of a review of how the military handled encounters with chemical munitions during the American occupation. The New York Times reported Wednesday.

An Oct. 15 Times story found that while the United States had gone to war looking for an active weapons of mass destruction program, troops instead quietly found and suffered from the remnants of the long-abandoned arsenal.

Since that article, which detailed instances of exposure that the military kept secret in some cases for nearly a decade, more veterans and servicemembers have come forward, the Times reported. To date, neither the Pentagon nor any of the services have released a full list of chemical weapons recoveries and

exposures.

The Times found that the military did not follow its own guidelines in the initial care of many patients, and did not establish a means for tracking their health, as guidelines also required.

In response, two senior Army doctors said in interviews this week that new medical examinations for troops and veterans who were exposed to chemical munitions would begin in early 2015. The Navy too has announced it will ramp up care.

Maj. Gen. Gary Cheek, deputy commanding general for Army operations, said the accounts of poor medical care and follow-up were disturbing. "I am not going to try to excuse it," he said.

But he defended the classification of chemical weapons incidents, telling the Times that the military did not want to provide information to insurgents that Iraq's old chemical munitions "could be effective."

Rear Adm. John Kirby, Defense



KEVIN BROWLEY/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

**This stock of munitions was found by 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division soldiers in a large weapons cache near Taji, Iraq, discovered in 2005. The Pentagon will offer medical examinations and monitoring to troops exposed to chemical warfare agents in Iraq.**

Secretary Chuck Hagel's spokesman, suggested that position is under review. "The secretary obviously remains committed to preserving operational security but also recognizes the value in making available as much information as possible to veterans preparing — or continuing to file — VA claims," he said.

The new accounts increase to at least 25 the number of U.S. troops exposed to chemical agents.

The latest accounts mostly fit a familiar pattern, the Times wrote. They include two Army bomb disposal technicians who picked up a mustard shell at a roadside bombing in 2004; two Navy disposal technicians who handled mustard shells in 2006 and 2007; and members of an Army infantry platoon who said they were

denied decontamination and swift medical evaluation after inhaling mustard vapors in 2008, when soldiers were destroying a buried chemical-munitions stockpile.

The accounts of still other troops and veterans suggest there were more instances of exposure, and that there could be a larger number of exposed veterans than the services have acknowledged or perhaps even know about, according to the report.

Jonathan Martin, a former Marine who was exposed to mustard agent and whose exposure was confirmed by the Marine Corps, told the Times that when he tried to tell the Department of Veterans Affairs about his exposure he had been doubted. "It would be nice to get some recognition that this actually happened," he said.

## Wearing unearned medals is a crime

Stars and Stripes

Lying about receiving a military medal is protected speech, but there's no right to wear a combat decoration that hasn't been earned, a federal appeals court said Wednesday. The difference, said a divided panel of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, is that lying is speech, but wearing a medal is conduct, according to a report in the San Francisco Chronicle. The decision in an Idaho case returned the court to a controversy that led to a 2012 Supreme Court ruling and a rewriting of the law by Congress in 2013.

The defendant, Elven Swisher, served in the Marine Corps from 1954 to 1957, the Chronicle reported. In 2001 he applied for disability benefits, claiming he had been wounded in a secret mission to North Korea in 1955, after the Korean War ended. The Department of Veterans Affairs granted the request in 2004 after Swisher submitted what appeared to be a military document saying he had been awarded a Silver Star.

But the VA learned in 2006 that the document was forged and ordered Swisher to repay the benefits, the paper noted. He was later convicted and sentenced to a year in prison on charges that included stealing government funds and wearing unauthorized medals.

The appeals court upheld Swisher's conviction in 2009, but he filed a new appeal after the court, in a 2010 case, struck down a federal law that made it a crime to lie about earning military decorations. The U.S. Supreme Court, in a 6-3 ruling, agreed with the Ninth Circuit in June 2012 that the law violated freedom of speech. Three months later, in another case, a different Ninth Circuit panel upheld the ban on wearing unearned military medals.

Congress has since rewritten the law to prohibit lying about military honors for financial gain, while repealing the ban on wearing medals that haven't been earned. But the repeal didn't help Swisher, whose conviction under the former law was upheld Wednesday.

## Navy jet crashes in California, killing pilot

The Associated Press

PORT HUENEME, Calif. — A jet on a military training exercise crashed into an agricultural field near a Southern California Navy base Wednesday, killing the pilot, authorities said.

The plane disintegrated when it hit the ground at about 5:15 p.m. as it was preparing to land at Naval Station Ventura County. The crash sent a huge plume of billowing black smoke into the sky 65 miles north of Los Angeles.

The pilot, the only person aboard, was pronounced dead at the scene, said Ventura County fire Capt. Mike Lindberg.

Nobody on the ground was hurt.

"Fortunately nobody was in that portion of the field," Lindberg said.

The plane, a civilian fighter jet contracted by the Navy, had just finished playing the role of an enemy aircraft in an offshore training exercise and was preparing to land at the naval station when it went down across the street in a field near the Pacific Coast Highway, base spokeswoman Kimberly Gearhart said.

She said it was unclear whether the pilot reported any problems before the crash.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kentzer said the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board were

investigating.

The British-built, single-seat Hawker Hunter MK.58 was owned by Airborne Tactical Advantage Co. of Newport News, Va. The company, known as ATAC, provides aerial training to the military, including the Navy's elite Fighter Weapons School.

"The company has ceased flight operations during preliminary investigations," company spokesman Matt Bannon said.

Bannon declined to release the pilot's name but said he was a retired military pilot who was "extremely proficient and knowledgeable about fighter tactics and operating high-performance aircraft."

## Bill to shield vets services from government shutdown advances

By Travis J. Tritten

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A bill to secure the funding of veterans' services in a time of uncertain federal budgets won an initial legislative victory on Capitol Hill this week.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said he will call a vote before the end of the year on the Putting Veterans Funding First Act. Reid announced that in a letter sent Tuesday to the bill's sponsor, Sen. Mark Begich, D-Alaska, who is in the midst of a tough re-election battle.

Reid's green-light on the vote

was no doubt a midterm run-up gift to Begich — he called the senator a "tireless advocate" of the state's 73,000 vets — but it also answered the calls of groups such as Disabled American Veterans, who say veterans need to know health, benefits and other services will not cease due to a budget impasse in Congress or a shutdown of the federal government, which have both been threats in recent years due to political gridlock.

In his letter, Reid said he decided to allow the floor vote to coincide with Veterans Day.

The federal government par-

tially shut down for more than two weeks a year ago, causing work to stop on the processing of hundreds of thousands of veteran disability claims and threaten disability compensation checks, Begich wrote in a published op-ed about his bill earlier this month.

He said the bill would protect those veterans from being caught in another budget shutdown by requiring Congress to lay out VA funding a year in advance.

"The result would be no disruptions in services for veterans in the event of any future government shutdown and no danger of cutting off veterans' checks," Begich

wrote. "No one in their right mind wants a repeat of that dark period."

And the Putting Veterans Funding First Act would prevent it.

The DAV has been lobbying for the change.

The group's National Commander Ronald Hope said Thursday that "chronically late appropriations bills" have "sabotaged" the VA's ability to provide services.

"Without a timely budget, the VA is left without knowing what level of funding it will receive each year or when it will arrive," Hope said in a released statement.

The vote in the Senate is just one step forward and the legislation

still faces hurdles to becoming law, he said.

Putting Veterans Funding First Act was overwhelmingly approved by both the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees, there could still be some significant obstacles to overcome before it is passed by the House, Hope said. "Even for this noncontroversial and budget-neutral bill, political maneuvering and partisan gamesmanship remain a threat until it is finally enacted into law."

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# WAR ON TERRORISM



Cheering locals surround a group of Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga troops arriving Wednesday in Nusaybin, Mardin, in southeastern Turkey.

## 1st peshmerga fighters enter Syrian town as clashes rage

By ELENA BECATOROS  
By Associated Press

SURUC, Turkey — Ten Iraqi peshmerga fighters entered a northern Syrian border town, crossing over from Turkey on Thursday, the first from among a group of 150 Kurdish troops on their way into the embattled Kobani, activists said.

The development followed heavy overnight clashes as Islamic State fighters unsuccessfully tried to capture the border crossing point, the only gateway into and out of the strategic Kurdish town besieged by the militants.

Kobani-based activist Mustafa Bani said the 10 entered Kobani first and that the rest would follow gradually later in the day because the border crossing point has been targeted by Islamic State fighters. Bani spoke to The Associated Press just minutes after the peshmerga forces arrived.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the 10 peshmerga fighters entered Kobani about noon through the Turkey-Syria border crossing.

The mission of the peshmerga troops is to help Kurdish fighters inside Kobani try to break the siege by Islamic State militants who launched the attack on Kobani six weeks ago.

The ability of the small force to turn the tide of battle will depend on the effectiveness of their weapons and on continued U.S.-led airstrikes against the extremists.

On Wednesday, a group of 50 Syrian rebels entered Kobani — also from Turkey — in a push to help Kurdish fighters there against the Islamic State militants. The rebels are from the Free Syrian Army and were meant to help the long-awaited Iraqi peshmerga fighters and the town's Kurdish defenders.

The FSA is an umbrella group of mainstream rebels fighting to topple Syrian President Bashar Assad. The political leadership of the Western-backed FSA is based in Turkey, where fighters often seek respite from battle.

Despite dozens of U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, the Kurdish fighters in Syria — known as the People's Protection Units, or YPG — have been struggling to defend Kobani against the Islamic State militants since mid-September.

The IS group's offensive on Kobani and nearby Syrian villages has killed more than 800 people, activists say. The Sunni extremists captured dozens of Kurdish villages and control parts of Kobani. More than 200,000 people have fled to Turkey.

The coalition has carried out

more than 150 airstrikes against the militants in and around Kobani, helping stall their advance. U.S. officials said the airstrikes have killed hundreds of Islamic State fighters.

The U.S. Central Command said that American air force conducted 12 airstrikes in Syria of which 10 were in the Kobani area since Wednesday. The airstrikes near Kobani struck two small Islamic State units and destroyed seven militants fighting positions and five buildings occupied by the jihadists, it said in a statement.

Under pressure to take greater action against the militants — from the West as well as from Kurds in Turkey and Syria — the Turkish government recently agreed to let the fighters cross through its territory. But it is allowing only the peshmerga forces from Iraq, with whom it has a good relationship, and not those from the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK.

Ankara views the Syrian Kurds defending Kobani as loyal to what it regards as an extension of the U.S. and NATO.

Kurdish fighters in Syria have repeatedly said they did not need more fighters, only weapons.

## US-Turkey ties show signs of fraying over Syria

By LIZ SLY  
The Washington Post

ANKARA, Turkey — The increasingly hostile divergence of views between Turkey and the United States over Syria is testing the durability of their 60-year alliance, to the point where some are starting to question whether the two countries still can be considered allies at all.

Turkey's refusal to allow the United States to use its bases to launch attacks against the Islamic State, quarrels over how to manage the battle raging in the Syrian border town of Kobani and the harsh tone of the anti-American rhetoric used by top Turkish officials to denounce U.S. policy have served to illuminate the vast gulf that divides the two nations as they scramble to address the menace posed by the extremists.

Whether the Islamic State even is the chief threat confronting the region is disputed, with Washington and Ankara publicly airing their differences through a fog of sniping, insults and recrimination over who is to blame for the mess the Middle East has become.

At stake is a six-decade relationship forged during the Cold War and now endowed with a different but equally vital strategic dimension. Turkey is positioned on the front line of the war against the Islamic State, controlling a 780-mile border with Iraq and Syria. Without Turkey's cooperation, no U.S. policy to bring stability to the region can succeed, analysts and officials on both sides say.

"If Turkey is not an ally, then we and Turkey are in trouble," said Francis Ricciardone, who served as the U.S. ambassador to Turkey until the summer. "It is probably the most important ally."

The airdrop by U.S. warplanes last week of weapons to a Kurdish group Turkey regards as a terrorist organization crystallized the apparent parting of ways. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has not disguised his anger at the way President Barack Obama ordered the airdrop. The U.S. president informed him of the decision

in a telephone call barely an hour after Erdogan had declared to journalists that Turkey would never allow such assistance to take place.

On a tour of the Baltic states last week, Erdogan blasted Obama at every stop. "Mr. Obama ordering three C-130s to airdrop weapons and supplies to Kobani right after our conversation cannot be approved of," he said during a news conference in Latvia. "The U.S. did that despite Turkey," he fumed on another leg of the journey.

**"If Turkey is not an ally, then we and Turkey are in trouble."**

Francis Ricciardone  
former U.S. ambassador to Turkey

which Turkey does not object to, because it has friendly relations with Iraqi Kurds.

But the Kobani dispute masked more fundamental differences over a range of issues, some of which have been brewing for years and others that have been brought to light by the urgency of the U.S.-led air campaign, analysts say.

"The Syria crisis is exposing long-unspoken, unpleasant truths about the relationship that were put to one side," said Bulent Aliriza, a Turkish analyst with the Washington-based Center for Strategic and International Studies. "We have this kabuki dance where Washington and Ankara say they agree, but they don't."

The tensions are not unprecedented, nor are the doubts about an alliance born in a different era, when fears of Soviet expansionism brought Muslim Turkey under NATO's umbrella and extended the Western bloc's reach into Asia.

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## EUROPE

# Berlin Wall's demise yielded a changed world

By TEDDIE WEYR  
Stars and Stripes

On the night of Nov. 9, 1989, thousands of Germans swarmed along both sides of the Berlin Wall — opened under massive public pressure by an East German leadership that realized its days were numbered. Within a year, the East German communists were gone. Germany was a reunited country again.

The ugly, gray wall that sliced through the heart of Adolf Hitler's former capital had come to symbolize the division of Europe — one side communist, one side free.

The communists built the wall to keep their people from fleeing the Soviet bloc. By allowing the wall to open, the communists acknowledged that they could no longer stem the tide of freedom that would ultimately sweep away the Soviet Union itself by the end of 1991.

The fall of the wall paved the way for the end of the Cold War, the momentous confrontation between the United States, the Soviet Union and their many allies and satellites. The constant fear of nuclear holocaust that had hung over the world for more than a half-century was gone.

The Cold War was only cold in the sense that there was no direct combat between the two superpowers. But conflicts involving proxies of the two military blocs — NATO and the Warsaw Pact — were waged across the world and claimed millions of lives.

In the years that have followed, much of the euphoria that surrounded the fall of the wall has dissipated.

Relations between the West and a revived Russia have soured since Moscow's seizure of the Crimean peninsula from Ukraine this year. Leaders across Western Europe and the United States have warned darkly of a return to the Cold War.

But the Iron Curtain — flung open with the domino collapse of one communist regime after another in 1989 — is no more, and countries once behind it as

See more stories, photos and an interactive map at [www.stripes.com/go/wall25](http://www.stripes.com/go/wall25)

part of the Soviet-dominated Warsaw Pact military alliance are now members of NATO, the U.S.-dominated Western military alliance the Warsaw Pact was formed to counter.

Old nations re-emerged and new ones were born out of the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Those included the Baltic states — whose integration into the Soviet Union the U.S. never recognized — which now fear Russia's intentions most.

The proliferation of new nations continued with the peaceful split of Czechoslovakia in 1993 into the Czech Republic and Slovakia. But brutal wars in ethnically diverse Yugoslavia — a communist country not under Soviet domination — led to the creation of seven new nations. Two of those nations have since joined NATO, further swelling its ranks from the 12 founding members to 28 today.

While Western European nations fret over Russia's aggression and intentions, Poland has been urging its erstwhile adversaries to fortify NATO's eastern flank. The Poles and other East Europeans who now populate Germany's cities are no longer refugees from communism, but industrious tradesmen helping to drive Germany's formidable economy.

A united Germany, once cleft in two by the Iron Curtain, has become Europe's economic and political powerhouse.

It was the jubilant tearing down of the Berlin Wall that dramatically symbolized the collapse of communism, but the fabric of the Iron Curtain began to fray months before that — its inevitable demise secured when communist Hungary opened its border to allow thousands of East Germans who sought refuge there to travel to Austria and on to West Germany. West German diplomats were issuing passports at the border as families, crammed with their belongings in their tiny Trabant cars, waited to cross to freedom.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

A hole in the Berlin Wall along Niederkirchner Strasse draws the attention of a photographer in August. At left is an infamous site from a different era, the "Topography of Terror," a documentation center on the grounds of the Nazi SS headquarters.



A saxophonist plays as visitors to the Eastside Gallery have their photos taken in front of graffiti on the Berlin Wall. The section of the wall that makes up the gallery is the longest stretch still standing.

Many sobbed over both their new liberty and the prospect they would never see their old homes again. Little did anyone know how soon the barrier between the two Germanys would disappear

completely. The collapse of communism also drastically changed the U.S. presence and focus in Europe. During the Cold War, more than 300,000 personnel stared down

adversaries in Eastern Europe. That number has now fallen to about 80,000, and many train side-by-side with troops from those very nations that were once on the opposing side. Whether the drawdown continues likely will depend on Russia.

But whether or not a new Cold War is in the offing, Europe has vastly changed since the Iron Curtain's collapse. National boundaries have disappeared together with ideological differences. Thanks to common European Union membership, people once held at border crossings between East and West — sometimes for hours of searches and interrogation — now travel across those same borders the way motorists traverse state lines in the U.S.

Countries once held hostage behind the Iron Curtain have made clear they prefer the political and economic freedoms the EU offers and the defensive protection of NATO's umbrella.

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## Esso card limited for upgrade

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Esso fuel card service will be limited on Sunday morning because of a system upgrade, according to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

From 4 to 11 a.m. Sunday, customers will not be able to acquire new fuel or replacement cards, nor will they be able to add, edit or delete any online payments, AAFCES said, though existing payments will process as scheduled.

Because that could affect Esso fuel card holders who may want to upload funds or get new cards, "we want to get the word out and make sure the information is there to help factor in time for buying fuel before the weekend," said Lt. Col. Tom Davison, deputy commander for the Exchange OCONUS Region—Europe and Southwest Asia.

From staff reports

## NCO demoted for maltreatment of subordinate

By MATT MILLHAM  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — A military police dog handler found guilty of maltreatment of a subordinate was sentenced Thursday to 60 days of hard labor and was busted down two pay grades.

Staff Sgt. Justin Wolschlag, who previously served as the U.S. Army's kennel master in Stuttgart, also was sentenced to receive a reprimand for his treatment of a female private he supervised.

Stars and Stripes is withholding the accused's identity because she reported she was the victim of sexual assault.

Wolschlag was the senior-ranking soldier at the kennel in Stuttgart at the time of the incidents.

His accuser testified that he repeatedly commented on the size of her breasts, called her inappropriate names and made vulgar jokes about her.

Two other soldiers who worked for Wolschlag at the time offered similar accounts.

Wolschlag admitted to calling the private an inappropriate name but said the term wasn't meant to be abusive.

After the verdict and before he was sentenced, he told the panel of officers and enlisted members hearing his case that he'd acted unprofessionally and that "you can't have that in today's Army."

The private also alleged that while they were alone together on a mission, Wolschlag exposed himself to her, asked her to perform oral sex on him and threatened to

pull to the side of the road if she didn't.

The private testified she feared that if he pulled over, he would try to force her into other sex acts, so she complied.

"I just felt like I had no choice," she said.

Wolschlag's defense team maintained the oral sex and exposure never happened, and there was no physical evidence presented to support the allegations. The panel acquitted Wolschlag of those more serious charges.

On the maltreatment charge alone, Wolschlag faced up to a year in confinement, a dishonorable discharge, reduction to the lowest enlisted grade and forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

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# EBOLA OUTBREAK



ROBERT F. BUKATY/AP

Nurse Kaci Hickox leaves her home Thursday on a rural road in Fort Kent, Maine, to take a bike ride.

## Maine nurse defies Ebola quarantine with bike ride

By ROBERT F. BUKATY  
The Associated Press

FORT KENT, Maine — A nurse who vowed to defy Maine's voluntary quarantine for health care workers who treated Ebola patients followed through on her promise Thursday, leaving her home for an hourlong bike ride.

Kaci Hickox and her boyfriend stepped out of their home Thursday morning and rode away on mountain bikes, followed by a state police cruiser.

It was the second time Hickox broke quarantine. She left her home Wednesday evening briefly to speak to reporters, even shaking a hand that was offered to her.

Hickox contends there's no need for quarantine because she's showing no symptoms. She's also tested negative for the deadly disease.

"I really hope that we can work things out amicably and continue to negotiate," she said Thursday morning while riding on a dirt trail.

There was no immediate comment from state health officials, who were going to court to detain Hickox for the remainder of the 21-day incubation period for Ebola that ends on Nov. 10.

"There's a lot of misinformation about how Ebola is transmitted, and I can understand why people are frightened. But their fear is not based on medical facts," Norman Siegel, one of her attorneys, said Wednesday.

Hickox, who treated Ebola patients while volunteering in Sierra Leone with Doctors Without Borders, was the first person

forced into New Jersey's mandatory quarantine for people arriving at the Newark airport from three West African countries. Hickox spent the weekend in a tent in New Jersey before traveling to the home she shares with her boyfriend, a nursing student at the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

"I'm not willing to stand here and let my civil rights be violated when it's not science-based," she said Wednesday evening.

Word spread quickly around the town of 4,300 residents on the Canadian border.

Fort Kent resident Priscilla Staples said some residents are "fearful" of Hickox's presence in the community, but she believes Hickox "has done nothing wrong and she has every right in the world to go for a bike ride."

Generally, states have broad authority when it comes to such matters. But Maine health officials could have a tough time convincing a judge that Hickox poses a threat, said attorney Jackie L. Caynon III, who specializes in health law in Worcester, Massachusetts.

"If somebody isn't showing signs of the infection, then it's kind of hard to say someone should be under mandatory quarantine," he said.

Ebola, which is spread through direct contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person, has killed thousands of people in Africa, but only four people have been diagnosed with it in the United States. People can't be infected just by being near someone who's sick, and people aren't contagious unless they're sick, health

officials say.

Guidelines from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend daily monitoring for health care workers like Hickox who have come into contact with Ebola patients. But some states like Maine are going above and beyond those guidelines.

In the very early stages of the blood, the CDC says it may take up to three days after the onset of symptoms for the virus to reach detectable levels in some patients, prompting repeat testing in some cases.

The Defense Department is going even further. On Wednesday, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel ordered military men and women helping fight Ebola to undergo 21-day quarantines that start upon their return — instead of their last exposure to an Ebola patient.

President Barack Obama warned that overly restrictive measures imposed upon returning health care workers could discourage them from volunteering in Africa.

But Maine Gov. Paul LePage, who canceled campaign events to keep tabs on the situation, maintained that the state must be "vigilant" to protect others.

State law allows a judge to grant temporary custody of someone if health officials demonstrate "a clear and immediate public health threat."

The state's court filing was expected Thursday, officials said.

## Quarantine: Decision still needed for civilians, DOD says

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Several dozen Army soldiers were ordered into quarantine Sunday in Vicenza, Italy, by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno. The troops, including U.S. Army Africa commander Maj. Gen. Darryl Williams, deployed from Vicenza in September to set up a headquarters in the Liberian capital, Monrovia, and to begin construction of treatment units.

As many as 4,000 troops eventually could be sent to Africa from installations including Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bliss, Texas; and Fort Carson, Colo.

The idea of setting up mass quarantine centers overseas could be politically problematic, with some officials in countries that host U.S. bases expressing reservations about hosting U.S. troops fresh from the Ebola zone.

Thomas confirmed that aircrews and other transient personnel who go briefly to West Africa to support Operation United Assistance can avoid the quarantine requirement.

They likely will be subject to an earlier policy put into place Oct.

10 that allows transient personnel who remain at U.S.-controlled facilities and who come into contact only with people monitored daily for Ebola symptoms to monitor themselves for signs of the disease.

But Pentagon officials said a decision still needs to be made on whether DOD civilians working in the Ebola area need a quarantine. On Thursday, the American Federation of Government Employees criticized the lack of guidance for civilian employees.

"The two groups should be treated the same," said J. David Cox Sr., the union's national president. "If DOD considers service in Ebola-affected countries to pose such a high risk for members of the military that they are required to be monitored or quarantined for 21 days upon arrival in the U.S., then civilians with similar exposure should be guaranteed 21 days of administrative leave for either self-isolation and monitoring or quarantine, which even medical authorities decide is appropriate."

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## Liberia sees progress; Sierra Leone in 'crisis'

By CLARENCE ROY-MACAULAY  
AND JONATHAN PAY-LAYLEH  
The Associated Press

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — Liberia is making some progress in containing the Ebola outbreak while Sierra Leone is "in a crisis situation which is going to get worse," the United Nations officials in the two countries said.

The people of both countries must redouble efforts to stop the disease, which has infected more than 13,000 people and has killed nearly 5,000, the officials said. Their assessments underscore that Ebola remains a constant threat until the outbreak is wiped out. It can appear to be on the wane, only to re-emerge in the same place or to balloon elsewhere if people don't avoid touching Ebola patients or the bodies of those who succumb to the disease.

"We need to go ahead to stop the transmission in order to arrest the situation," Palo Conte said late Wednesday in the Sierra Leone capital in his first news conference since the president this month appointed him CEO of the National Ebola Response Center. Conte previously was the defense minister.

"Today we have a new and vicious enemy, an enemy that does not wear uniform, that ... attacks anyone that comes into contact with (it) and if unchecked will ravage our beautiful land and its fine people," he said.

The outbreak has taken a particularly toll on health workers, sickening more than 520, and

greatly reducing the health system's capacity to respond in the three most-affected countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Those countries already had too few health workers before the crisis. Now many health workers are too frightened to treat Ebola patients because they often have inadequate protection.

The World Bank announced Thursday that it will give an additional \$100 million to help bring in more foreign health workers. That raises the money it has given to the Ebola fight to \$500 million.

The new funds will be used to train, pay and house health workers while they're in the Ebola hot zone and to provide medical care or evacuation for anyone infected.

If the virus continues to surge in the worst-affected countries and spreads to neighboring countries, the financial impact could reach \$32.6 billion by the end of 2015, the bank has warned.

But there are some signs of hope. Although the outbreak is now hitting areas in and around Sierra Leone's capital, areas of the country's east have seen the disease wane.

"If people in other areas of the country copy the example of eastern Kailahun and Kenema Districts, then the spread of the disease will subside like in Kailahun and Kenema. As I speak, people (near the capital) are still touching people suspected with the Ebola disease, people are still burying corpses at night of those who were killed of the disease," Conte said.

## NATION

# 2 independents could shape Senate control

By CHARLES BABINGTON  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After millions of Americans vote next week, it's possible that one or two men will decide which party controls the Senate.

One is Sen. Angus King, a Maine independent who generally "caucuses" — or cooperates — with Democrats but said he might switch to the Republicans. The other is Greg Orman, of Kansas, an independent candidate trying to oust Republican Sen. Pat Roberts.

If he wins, Orman said, he will caucus with whichever party holds the majority when the new Congress convenes in January. He has not said, however, what he would do if he could decide, by himself, which party that will be.

That could happen if Republicans win 50 seats and Democrats control 49 seats (including King's and that of another independent,

Vermont's Bernie Sanders, who also caucuses with Democrats). If Orman sided with the Democrats, they would control a 50-50 Senate, thanks to Vice President Joe Biden's ability to break tie votes.

But if Orman sided with the Republicans, they would hold a 51-49 majority.

King, who's not up for election this year, could complicate things even further. In the same scenario as above — a 50-49 GOP advantage with Orman undecided — King could put the Republicans in charge by switching to their caucus. Orman's decision, either way, could not change that.

In a different scenario — in which Democrats held the 50-49 edge awaiting Orman's decision — both he and King could choose to caucus with Republicans, giving the GOP a 51-49 majority.

Congressional insiders see that as unlikely. First, Orman would have to win an election that many

Republicans believe Roberts will survive. Then, all the other races would have to produce a 50-49 split, awaiting Orman's declaration. And King would have to switch party leanings and hand minority status to Democrats, with whom he generally seems comfortable.

"Changing who you caucus with is akin to changing parties," said Antonia Ferrier, a former GOP House and Senate aide. "It is no small thing, is deeply personal and exceedingly rare."

King occasionally hints he would consider such a switch. He told reporters in April that he will do what is "best for Maine" in the next Congress. He made similar remarks last week, stirring a Senate campaign pot already about to boil.

Currently, Democrats control 55 Senate seats to the Republicans' 45. Republicans need to gain six net seats to seize the majority.

King repeatedly calls for more bipartisanship and cooperation in government. He has urged Orman and another third-party candidate — former Sen. Larry Pressler, of South Dakota — to refuse to say which party they'd caucus with in Washington. Pressler's chances seem to be fading, but Orman is giving Roberts a tough fight.

People close to King say they'd be surprised if he joined the Republicans' caucus, especially if doing so handed the GOP the majority. He supported President Barack Obama's 2012 re-election, and his voting record leans more Democratic than Republican.

But King has endorsed some Republicans for re-election, including Sens. Susan Collins, of Maine, and Lamar Alexander, of Tennessee. In Maine, where Republican Gov. Paul LePage seeks re-election, King originally endorsed independent candidate Eliot Cutler but then switched to

Democrat Mike Michaud.

Even a remote hint of a caucus switch creates buzz in Senate circles.

"If — and it's a big if — control of the Senate is determined by two independents, then there will could be some quiet outreach by both sides over which party they should caucus with," Ferrier said.

Inducements from party leaders might include promises of plum committee assignments. Former Democratic Senate aide Jim Manley said party leaders also might try to address King's concerns with overtures such as pledging more bipartisanship or a more open process for legislative amendments. Manley said the entire party caucus would weigh in on such matters.

Senate aides say it would be virtually impossible for either party to offer a committee chairmanship to King, who has been a senator only two years.

## Viral video documents NYC street harassment

By DEEPTI HAJELA  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A video recording the comments a woman hears as she walks around the nation's biggest city is a testament to the pervasiveness of street harassment women face, its creators said.

The comments come continuously as the woman walks through the streets of Manhattan — "What's up, Beautiful?" and "Smile!" — and there's even a stretch when a man just stares right next to her for several minutes.

The video, shot over 10 hours one day in neighborhoods all over the borough and edited down to a two-minute final product, has set off a storm of outrage on its way to more than 10 million views since it was released online Tuesday.



Roberts

This is having a very serious impact on the way we live our lives," Emily Map, executive director of Hollaback!, the anti-street harassment organization that put out the video, said Wednesday.

The footage, which was shot and edited by Rob Bliss, was captured by a camera Bliss had in his backpack as he walked several feet from actress Shoshana Roberts, who was dressed in jeans and a T-shirt and walked silently along.

At no point did Roberts make eye contact with any of the men she passed or talk to any of them. That didn't stop the comments from coming. When she didn't re-

spond, one man told her, "Somebody's acknowledging you for being beautiful. You should say, 'Thank you, man!'"

Roberts said the number of comments the day the video was shot was nothing out of the ordinary for her.

"The frequency is something alarming," she said.

Martha Sauder, walking on a Manhattan street on Wednesday, agreed that street harassment is a problem and said it happens to her frequently.

"It's inappropriate. It's like an invasion of your space," she said. "I'd like it to stop."

But the video also has faced some online criticisms, among them that the men shown all seem to be minorities. Bliss and Roberts emphasized that the comments came from all racial groups, and Bliss said some interactions that were filmed couldn't be used for reasons like the audio was disrupted by passing sirens. "My experience, what we documented, it was from everybody," Roberts said.

Another criticism was that some men's comments seemed innocuous: "Good morning," "Have a nice day."

Some men could have been "genuinely being nice," said Gerard Burke, a Brooklyn resident who readily acknowledged street harassment exists and has seen it happen to women in his family. He said he thought the video shed light on a bigger problem, "but some people just genuinely want to say, 'Hello.'"

That's the problem with street harassment, Map said, because when there's a fear that a simple "Good morning" could escalate into sexual comments or actions, there's a reluctance to engage at all.



MARK THIESSEN/AP

Boxes containing more than 46,000 signatures for an initiative to make recreational use of marijuana legal in Alaska sit outside a hallway Aug. 19 at the state Division of Elections office in Anchorage.

## Oregon, Alaska are ground zero in fight over marijuana

By JEFF BARNARD  
AND RACHEL D'ORO  
The Associated Press

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — From slick video ads online to scrawled chalk messages on college campus sidewalks, intense get-out-the-vote drives are mobilizing in Oregon and Alaska to legalize retail sales of marijuana to anyone old enough to drink.

But backers of the legal-pot ballot measures in both states have a challenge that their predecessors in Colorado and Washington state didn't face two years ago — increasing turnout of young voters in a midterm election.

Young voters, who as a genera-

tion are more likely to support recreational marijuana, usually turn out during presidential years like 2012, but stay home during midterms, when the electorate skews older and more conservative.

If young people ages 18 to 29 vote like they did in 2012, Oregon's Measure 91, for example, would pass, said Ethan Nadelmann, head of Drug Policy Action, a major contributor in the national campaign to legalize marijuana.

"That's really what it boils down to," he said.

Washington, D.C., is voting on whether to make it legal to possess marijuana, but not to sell it. Whatever happens in the states and the nation's capital, advo-

ates plan to quickly shift their attention to the 2016 presidential elections and the big prize: California, where hopes are high for approval of legal pot despite a 2010 rejection.

"Even if all those things go down to defeat, I still think it's a clear slate in 2016," said Jeffrey Miron, an economist at Harvard University and the Cato Institute who follows national drug policy.

Mark Kleiman, a drug policy consultant who helped Washington state set up its legal marijuana industry, said the outcomes in Oregon and Alaska "will help determine the enthusiasm of funders financing the legalization campaign in California."



## NATION

## Deaths of Utah family of 5 are not accidental

BY LINDSAY WHITEHURST  
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The deaths of five members of a Utah family found last month do not appear to be accidental or natural, according to search warrants obtained Tuesday.

The five members of the Strack family, including three children, were found covered in bedding in a single bedroom with cups of liquid next to them, according to the warrant filed in Utah court.

It appears someone positioned the bodies after they died, according to the warrant.

Benjamin and Kristi Strack were in the bed when they were found in their Springville home on Sept. 27. Three of their children were lying around it, the bedding pulled up to their necks.

Police found a red liquid coming out of Kristi Strack's mouth.

"It is probable that these deaths were not accidental or natural in any way," Detective Jeff Ellsworth wrote in the search warrant affidavit.

Bob McGee, a spokesman for the rest of the Strack family, declined to comment on the case until after the report is complete.

The bodies were discovered by an older son and his girlfriend, both of whom also live in the home. Kristi Strack was last seen alive at 6 a.m.

The house was quiet when the couple left the house after 7 p.m., but when they returned at 7 p.m., they realized all the cars were still at home. They knocked on the master bedroom door, but after no one answered they called Kristi Strack's mother and her friend, who helped them force it open.

Investigators removed 14 drinking cups and bottles from the home, a pitcher of red juice and a purple bucket with yellow liquid.

They also seized a bag of marijuana, three cellphones, an iPod, a laptop computer, pill bottles, a bag of medications and empty boxes of sleep aids. One pair of slippers with a spot of blood and a towel with a red substance on it were also removed.



AUDREY McAVOY/AP

Police block traffic on Wednesday where officials expect lava to flow across the main road in Pahoa, Hawaii. Rain fell on a red hot river of lava as it threatened to consume its first home on its slow advance into the rural Hawaii town.

# Hawaii lava flow is slow, gentle yet unrelenting

BY AUDREY McAVOY and  
JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER  
The Associated Press

PAHOA, Hawaii — Pele, the Hawaiian volcano goddess, moves gradually and persistently as she deposits lava across the Big Island of Hawaii. People in the small town lying in its path say the lava will reshape the community yard-by-yard as it slides toward the ocean.

"She is so gentle, but so unrelenting. She is just slow and steady," said Jamila Dandini, a retiree who stopped at a coffee shop down the road from where scientists have forecast the lava will likely cross.

Lava from a vent at Kilauaea volcano has been sliding northeast toward the ocean since June. Last month, scientists said there was two weeks away from hitting the

main road in Pahoa, a small town of about 950 residents. The lava slowed but has largely remained on course.

Late Wednesday, it was about 225 yards away from Pahoa Village Road, Hawaii County civil defense officials said.

It was traveling about 5 to 10 yards an hour.

The languid pace has given residents time to pack their valuables and get out of the way. Yet it's been agonizing for those wondering whether the lava might change directions and head for them. And stressful for those trying to figure out how they will cope once the lava blocks the roads in and out of town.

"It's like slow torture. It speeds up, it slows down. It speeds up, it slows down," said Paul Utes, who owns and operates the Black Rock Cafe. "It's not like any other

event where it comes and goes and it gets over with and you can move on."

For the time being, business is up because more people from around the island and tourists from outside Hawaii have been streaming into town hoping to get a glimpse of the molten rock.

"The anxiety building up is kind of hard to deal with," Utes said.

Once the lava crosses the road and the bypass road, effectively slicing Pahoa in half, most residents won't be able to get to the area's only supermarket even though it's only a mile from the town center.

The rural, mostly agricultural community of Puna, for which Pahoa is its commercial center, will be cut off even more if the lava makes it all the way to the ocean, some 6 miles away.

## Calif. town seeking an exit from bankruptcy

BY SCOTT SMITH  
The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Stockton residents will likely learn Thursday if they can put more than two years of financial uncertainty behind them.

Marking a critical moment in the bankruptcy city's financial recovery, Stockton will ask U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Christopher Klein to approve a plan for reorganizing more than \$900 million in long-term debt over objections from a lone creditor that argued it was treated unfairly.

Franklin Templeton Investments argues the city isn't touching a massive employee pension, while asking the investment firm to walk away from collecting on nearly \$32.5 million still owed. Klein ruled earlier this month that bankruptcy law allows the city to treat pension obligations like any other debt, meaning the city could trim benefits.

Marc Levinson, the city's lead bankruptcy attorney, declined to comment on the city's treatment of its contract with California Public Employees' Retirement System, or CalPERS, in light of Klein's ruling.

"I don't know that it will come into play," said San Francisco-based bankruptcy attorney Michael Sweet, who has closely watched the case. He said there have been no Chapter 9 bankruptcies that attacked pensions.

In his ruling, Klein can approve the city's plan of adjustment, send the city back into negotiations with Franklin or reject the plan.

An inland port city 80 miles east of San Francisco, Stockton filed for Chapter 9 protection in 2012, making it the nation's largest bankrupt city before Detroit filed for bankruptcy last year. Vallejo went through bankruptcy before Stockton. San Bernardino filed shortly after Stockton, but it has yet to present an exit plan.

City leaders have said they turned to bankruptcy as a last resort, blaming an unforgiving boom-and-bust economic cycle.

## Survey: Shrimp rife with murky labeling

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Consumers around the nation can't be sure what kind of shrimp they're buying if they simply look at the label or menu at supermarkets, grocers and restaurants, an advocacy group says.

Oceana did a DNA-based survey of shrimp sold at outlets in New York City; Washington; Portland, Ore.; and various spots around the Gulf of Mexico.

The group said it found about 30 percent of 143 shrimp products bought from 111 vendors were not what the label said. Cheap

imported farm-raised shrimp is being sold as prized wild-caught Gulf shrimp, common shrimp sold as premium shrimp and shrimp of all kinds sold with no indication whatsoever about where they came from, the group said. Oceana is urging Congress and regulators to enforce proper labeling.

The group acknowledged that the survey was a small sample, but said the survey using DNA techniques is the first of its kind.

The group did a similar survey last year for fish and made similar findings. A laboratory tested each sample to identify what kind of

shrimp each was by species.

"It was a first good look at shrimp," said Kimberly Warner, a marine scientist with Oceana. She went out and obtained many of the samples.

Misleading and illegal labeling of food is considered a major problem among food purists because it cheats consumers and puts them at risk of tainted foods, hurts honest vendors and tarnishes an industry's product. The report said that because of mislabeling, consumers are not guaranteed they are eating shrimp that meets high, chemical-free standards.



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

A commercial fisherman picks through a pile of shrimp on his boat in 2011 in Grand Isle, La.

## NATION



# Horse power gains favor with small-scale farmers

By MARY ESCH  
The Associated Press

**W**hile most modern farmers work their fields accompanied by the rumble of a trusty tractor, sheep farmer Donn Hewes labors to the faint jingling of harnesses in rhythm with the hoofbeats of horses and mules.

He readily admits that horse-powered farming takes more time and effort than tractor farming. But as one of a growing number of small-scale farmers dedicated to keeping alive the art of the teamster, he's fine with that. "People always want to know how many dollars an hour can I make, and can I really profit from farming with horses," Hewes said. "We can, but to me, that's the wrong question. I benefit in so many ways. I benefit from working with young stock, building fertility for the farm, and all the time I get to spend enjoying doing what I'm doing."

Hewes and his wife, Maryrose Livingston, own Northland Sheep Dairy on a hilltop in central New York, 40 miles south of Syracuse. Livingston milks grass-fed sheep and sells handmade cheese.

Hewes, who has a night job as a firefighter, works about 100 acres of land with Percheron and Suffolk draft horses and mules pulling implements for haymaking, compost spreading, snow-plowing and log-hauling.

Horse-powered farmers cite a number of reasons for eschewing engines. For example, horses don't use fossil fuels, their manure contributes to the farm's fertility, and they cost less than tractors.

As president of Draft Animal Power Network, Hewes is dedicated to mentoring and sharing experiences with other farmers who want to work with horses.

"Young people are starting organic vegetable farms, realizing there's an opportunity to make healthy food for local

markets," Hewes said. "A segment of that movement is finding out about draft animal power. That's creating new demand for horse-powered equipment, and Amish businesses are responding [by] making equipment that's smaller and more accessible to beginning farmers."

Dalton, Ohio-based Pioneer Equipment, an Amish manufacturer of horse-drawn farm implements, recently came out with the Homesteader for small farms. It has interchangeable parts for plowing, harrowing, discing, planting, cultivating and harvesting row crops such as carrots,

onions and potatoes.

It's hard to quantify how many horse-powered farmers there are. Stephen Leslie, who runs a horse-powered dairy and vegetable farm in Hartland, Vermont, said he has seen a big increase since he and his wife started Cedar Mountain Farm 20 years ago.

"When we started it was hard to find anyone with knowledge or equipment," said Leslie, whose book, "The New Horse-Powered Farm," was published in 2013. "Now, the networking is incredible."

Leslie said horse-powered farm equipment manufacturers, most of which are Amish, all report increasing sales and a growing number of non-Amish customers. "That's one way to gauge the health of horse farming," Leslie said.

The Draft Animal Power Network has grown to 400 members since it was formed in 2010, Hewes said. "We've had draft animal field days in the Northeast five out of the last seven years, and attendance keeps growing. There were over 1,000 last year at the event in Barton, Vt."

On a recent afternoon, Hewes put a collar and harness on a young mule he bred from his mammoth jack donkey and a Percheron mare.

Hitching the mule to a chain attached to a heavy log, Hewes began a training session, communicating with whistles, low voice commands, and long leather lines attached to a bit.

"When people want to get into this, I really encourage them to look for some mentorship so they can have safe beginnings," Hewes said. "That can be a challenge, because most of the old-timers who were born to farming with horses are gone. Today, it's up to people like me to fill the gap and provide mentorship. That's something I really enjoy."

**Donn Hewes uses draft horses and mules on his farm in Marathon, N.Y. Popular among small-scale farmers, horse-powered farming costs less than tractors and doesn't pollute the environment.**

PHOTOS BY HEATHER AINSWORTH/AP



## NATION

# The Vixen Workout

## Dance workout puts moves on women's self-esteem



RICHARD DREW/AP

Janet Jones, second left on stage, leads a Vixen Workout fitness concert at the Highline Ballroom in New York in July. Jones, a former Miami Heat dancer created the Vixen Workout two years ago. The high-energy routine has caught on in New York and other cities.

By VANESSA A. ALVAREZ  
The Associated Press

When Janet Jones was laid off from her job as a financial assistant two years ago and hit rock bottom, inspiration struck.

The former Miami Heat dancer decided to create a women's-only workout with a safe space to let loose with girlfriends, listen to hip-hop and rap music, curse and even scream.

She called it the Vixen Workout.

As a woman "you need some type of release," said Jones, who has a 5-year-old daughter.

"And you're not a bad mother for thinking that, you're not a bad wife, you're not a bad anything," said Jones, 33, who is based in Miami but also leads workouts in New York and other cities. "You're gonna be a better person, in turn, to your family if you are the best version of yourself."

Jones' business grossed nearly \$1.5 million in its first year, popularized through Instagram and word of mouth. Her classes have expanded nationally and fitness concerts in Miami and New York, which hosted nearly 500 women each, sold out in just hours.

The workout has a nightclub vibe, complete with low lighting, strobe lights, foggy mirrors and the sounds of Beyoncé, J.Lo, Busta Rhymes and other high-voltage artists. The moves and music Jones selects are meant to empower women, making them feel like stars, she said.

At each class, Jones and her dance assistants ask the women to scream such phrases as "Yes, I'm fierce. Yes, I'm sexy. Yes, I got this!" Jones reminds them to live their lives with intention and to always reach for more.

And then they dance.

Jones teaches a repertoire of dance numbers choreographed to the newest hip-hop, R&B songs and house music.

Her Vixen Army, as she affectionately calls her following, is encouraged to show up dressed in tights, funky T-shirts and sneaker wedges; their hair loose, lips painted and their girlfriends at their sides, ready for night-out-on-the-town excitement.

"It makes me feel good, it makes me feel sexy. It makes me feel energized," said Jessie Diaz, 27, an admissions counselor from Harlem who started doing the workout last December with a group of 15 girlfriends.

The classes have spurred big changes for Teena Marie DiBartolo, 25, who travels nearly three hours roundtrip from the Bronx to midtown Manhattan to take the class with her mother, Mayra DiBartolo, 53.

Teena Marie has lost nearly 50 pounds since she started doing the workouts last October. More than the

weight, she says the positive messages have helped her see herself in a new way.

"It's definitely made me more confident, and inspired me to, as the slogan says 'Stay hungry, live fierce,'" said DiBartolo. "I was so shy if you had met me a year ago, but it sparked something in me. It motivated me to reach higher."

Classes cost \$15 in Miami and \$18 in New York for hourlong sessions. Each week nearly 2,000 women show up to take at least one of the many classes offered in Miami, New York, Hoboken, N.J., Chicago or Los Angeles.

As word of Vixen Workout spreads so do plans for expansion, Jones said. Up next: Texas.

"It needs to be worldwide," she said. "I feel like it's my responsibility to even try to change a speck of what a woman feels about herself."

As  
a woman  
"you need some  
type of release. And  
you're not a bad mother for  
thinking that, you're not a bad wife,  
you're not a bad anything. You're gonna be  
a better person, in turn, to your family  
if you are the best version of yourself."

— Janet Jones, creator of the Vixen Workout



## FAITH

# Peeling back the secrecy

By BRADY MCCOMBS  
The Associated Press

**T**he Mormon church is addressing the mystery that has long surrounded undergarments worn by its faithful with a new video explaining the practice in-depth while admonishing ridicule from outsiders about what it considers a symbol of Latter-day Saints' devotion to God.

The four-minute video on The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' website compares the white, two-piece cotton "temple garments" to holy vestments worn in other religious faiths such as a Catholic nun's habit or a Muslim skullcap.

The footage is part of a recent effort by the Salt Lake City-based religion to explain or clarify on some of the faith's more sensitive beliefs. Articles posted on the church's website in the past two years have addressed the faith's past ban on black men in the lay clergy; its early history of polygamy; and the misconception that members are taught they'll get their own planet in the afterlife.

## Mormons address mystery surrounding undergarments

The latest video dispels the notion that Latter-day Saints believe temple garments have special protective powers, a stereotype perpetuated on the Internet and in popular culture by those who refer to the sacred clothing as "magical Mormon underwear."

"These words are not only inaccurate but also offensive to members," the video says. "There is nothing magical or mystical about temple garments, and church members ask for the same degree of respect and sensitivity that would be afforded to any other faith by people of goodwill."

The video and accompanying article feature more detailed information about the garments than has ever before been released to the public, Mormon scholars say.

It was made to fill a void on the Internet, which has little, if any, accurate information about the undergarments, church spokesman Eric Hawkins said in a statement.

The video, also available on YouTube, explains that the undergarments are worn daily by devout adult Latter-day Saints as a reminder of their commitment to God to live good, honorable lives.

The garments, which resemble a T-shirt and shorts, are shown laid out on a table in what marks a rare public glimpse at clothing that normally is hidden from outsiders.

Members are taught not to hang the garments in public places to dry or display them in view of people "who do not understand their significance."

The video comes two years after jabs about the undergarments were lobbed

at Mitt Romney in 2012 with the intent to damage his candidacy as the first Mormon presidential nominee of a major political party.

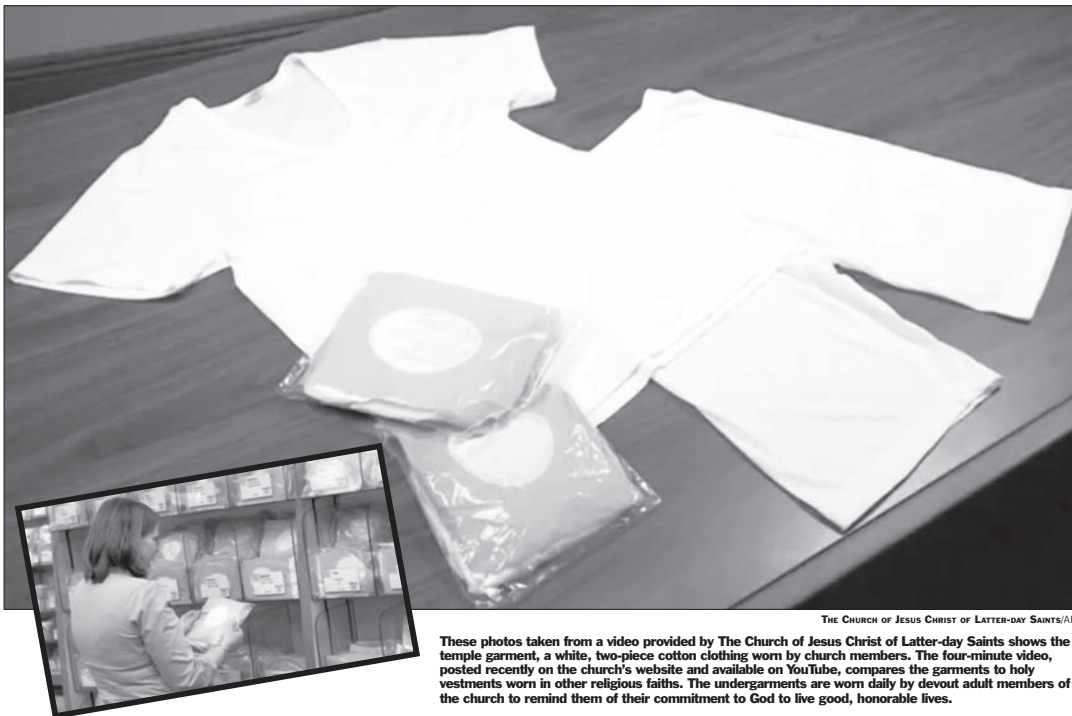
The video's focus on the offensiveness of flippant remarks about the undergarments shows the church no longer will tolerate them, said Armand Mauss, a retired professor of sociology and religious studies at Washington State University.

The church has some 15 million members worldwide.

Latter-day Saints seem pleased by the refreshing transparency from the church on a topic that has been the source of much curiosity among outsiders, some of whom are rude about, said Jana Riess, who blogs about Mormonism for the Religion News Service.

She wrote that she hopes the footage will "persuade gawkers that there's nothing to see here, folks."

"They now have something official to point to if people ask questions," Riess said in an interview. "I love that they put it on YouTube for the entire world to see. I think that's very brave."



THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS/AP

These photos taken from a video provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints shows the temple garment, a white, two-piece cotton clothing worn by church members. The four-minute video, posted recently on the church's website and available on YouTube, compares the garments to holy vestments worn in other religious faiths. The undergarments are worn daily by devout adult members of the church to remind them of their commitment to God to live good, honorable lives.



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FACES

# Total recall

Nicole Kidman says memories are essential to her work

BY RYAN PEARSON  
The Associated Press

**N**icole Kidman didn't land the part she wanted in her first formal acting gig.

She had been angling to play Mary or perhaps an angel in the school nativity play, but was cast as a sheep. The 5-year-old actress' costume: a decorated car seat cover.

"Not my finest moment. But I felt amazing," Kidman said in an interview, laughing. "It's the beginning of my whole career. I bleated through the whole play, and got my first laugh. And I was hooked."

Kidman is reminiscing while promoting her thriller "Before I Go to Sleep," in U.S. theaters Friday. The 47-year-old actress plays a woman whose memory is wiped clean every night, and begins questioning her husband and others as she tries to unravel what happened to her.

Memory is key to Kidman's work. Tapping into feelings from past personal experiences — love, trauma, heartbreak, whatever — is essential to acting, she said.

"That's what we're made of is our memories, right?" she said. "Actors of course have to use things that trigger our emotions."

Kidman's very first childhood memories are apropos for the release date of her latest film.

"I remember Halloweening when I was about 3 with my parents when we lived in Washington, D.C.," she said. She was a ghost, dressed in a sheet with eyeholes cut out by her mother. "And then I remember eating snow when I was about 3 as well — wanting to taste it and being told I wasn't allowed to but still secretly doing it," she said. "Isn't that crazy? And I have a vivid memory of both of those things."

Kidman demurs when asked about her most memorable and forgettable filmmaking experiences. Certain characters do stick with her, though.

"A lot of times you stagger out of there. And sometimes it's sad to leave a character. Sometimes it's like ah, I can't wait to shed this," she said.

The one role she wanted to hold on to the longest: her Oscar-nominated turn as Satine in Baz Luhrmann's 2001 musical, "Moulin Rouge!"



THIBAUT CAMUS/AP

Actress Nicole Kidman says among her first childhood memories is a Halloween in Washington, D.C., when she was 3. The actress has a new movie out about memory, a thriller called "Before I Go to Sleep," also starring Colin Firth and Mark Strong.



Orson Welles

## Orson Welles' last film might finally be released

Orson Welles' last film might finally be nearing release after decades as one of cinema's most storied unfinished creations.

The New York Times reported Wednesday that a Los Angeles-based production company, Royal Road Entertainment, has agreed to buy the rights to Welles' largely unseen "The Other Side of the Wind." Producers are planning to unveil the film in time for the centennial anniversary of Welles' birth on May 6.

The semi-autobiographical film is about a movie director, played by John Huston, feuding with Hollywood over an ambitious film. Welles shot the movie in 1971 and spent the rest of his life editing it, before dying in 1985.

Director Peter Bogdanovich, who appears in the film, will help edit the footage, which includes a roughly 45-minute edited print.

## 'House of Cards' actress dies

Actress Elizabeth Norment, who portrayed the secretary to Kevin Spacey's hard-driving politico Frank Underwood in the Netflix series "House of Cards," has died. She was 61 years old.

Netflix confirmed the death on Wednesday but offered no details. Beau Willimon, the show's co-creator, called Norment a "talented actress, a warm soul and a good friend to us all."

Norment appeared as a guest in many other TV shows, including "Doogie Howser, M.D.," "ER," "Party of Five" and "Law & Order." She also appeared in the movie comedies "The Woman in Red" and "Romy and Michele's High School Reunion."

## Other news

■ Prosecutors in Poland have questioned filmmaker **Roman Polanski** at the request of U.S. prosecutors who are seeking his extradition on charges from 1977 of having sex with a minor. A spokeswoman for the prosecutors in Krakow, Boguslawa filmakowska, said Thursday the filmmaker remained free but available for further proceedings.

■ **Suge Knight** and co-median **Kat Williams** were arrested and charged with robbery Wednesday after a celebrity photographer reported the men stole her camera last month. Prosecutors say Williams and Knight, who founded Death Row Records, were arrested Wednesday. Knight has a prior conviction for assault with a deadly weapon and could face up to 30 years in prison if convicted.

■ **PBS'** average prime-time household rating for the 2013-14 season was up 5 percent over the year before, the public TV service said Wednesday. Among all broadcast and cable networks, PBS said it ranked fifth in the Nielsen audience measurement, compared with eighth for the previous season and 11th for 2011-12.

From The Associated Press

# Taylor Swift talks books, music with kids

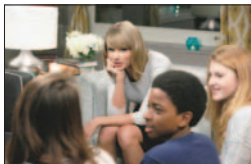
BY LEANNE ITALIE  
The Associated Press

Who says kids don't read? Not Taylor Swift.

The superstar made a stop Tuesday night on her busy tour promoting her new album to share her passion for reading and writing with a gaggle of New York City public school kids — and 100 more glistening on computer screens via Skype from classrooms in Michigan and California.

Swift, whose "1989" was expected to debut at No. 1 next week, is a lifelong lover of books and writing, particularly songwriting, but she told The Associated Press after chatting with the tweens and teens at Scholastic that she isn't ruling out other writing projects.

She's already an unpublished novelist! At 13 or 14, she wrote a 400-page book



STUART RAMSON, SCHOLASTIC/AP

Taylor Swift talks with New York City public school children about the power of reading and writing at Scholastic's headquarters in New York on Tuesday.

based on her life and friends, whom she had left behind during a summer away with her family.

"But since then, I've discovered music and that's the form of writing that inspires me the most. It's not to say that I wouldn't expand the mediums and the ways that I choose to write," Swift said. "What if I end up writing a script or a book, or a book of poetry or something? That would be so amazing. I would love to see that happen."

Her meetup with the kids, six surrounding her on cozy couches at the book publisher's Soho headquarters, was turned into a 30-minute video at Scholastic.com that has her urging more young people to "open a world of possible" through books.

The students on Skype from Troy, Mich., and Poway, Calif., had made signs declaring the superstar awesome. The in-person New Yorkers offered Swift their book recommendations. Among them: "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls and "Out of My Mind" by Sharon Draper.



Knight



Williams



## WORLD

# Winter outlook bleak for Donetsk

The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — Dark tunnels in the basement of a bombed-out hospital in the eastern city of Donetsk lead to a makeshift shelter. Opening the door hardly alleviates the gloom, for the only lighting inside is the flicker of handmade oil lamps.

The inhabitants move around like shadows, eyes dull and faces weary with hardship, dressed in several layers of worn-out sweat-shirts, vests and jackets. The tiny rooms are lit with sunflower oil poured into saucers and set aflame.

These people took refuge in the abandoned hospital's basement after their own homes were destroyed. They are either too poor or old to flee the brutal separatist war that has ravaged Ukraine's east.

Their dire situation is about to become much worse as Donetsk, which has lost nearly half of its 1 million-strong population, braces for winter. In eastern Ukraine,



DMITRY LOVETSKY/AP

Vladimir Tumanov, whose home was destroyed in late August, hides from shelling with his dogs in the basement under a hospital near Donetsk airport in eastern Ukraine. Damage to critical infrastructure is expected to have a harsh effect on residents of Donetsk as winter approaches.

where temperatures typically stay below freezing all winter, damage to critical infrastructure and lack of adequate shelter for the newly homeless could mean death from cold for many.

"We have nowhere to go," said Vera Dvornikova, 70, a janitor who has been living in the basement of Hospital 18 since her apartment was obliterated by shelling in late July. Her murky room is cluttered with shabby relics of the past, battered old chairs and something with a blanket on it, which could be a bed.

The basement that Dvornikova shares with 19 others has no running water or heating, and electricity has been cut off for a month.

The hospital lies in a residential area full of five-story blocks with missing roofs, gaping holes in the walls and gutted windows. The neighborhood is across the bridge from the airport which has been an epicenter of heavy fighting between pro-Russia rebels and government forces for weeks.

A few blocks away, a repair team is fixing a hot water pipe that will soon switch heating on for one of the damaged houses. Alexander Zuyev, the team's supervisor, said it is not within his power to help Dvornikova and her fellow lodgers because the hospital, like many buildings in the neighborhood, has been too heavily damaged. Without the roof and windows, he said,

fixing the heating is pointless.

About 1,000 houses and apartment blocks, some 10 percent of the city's total, have been damaged by shelling, according to Maxim Rovinsky, a former official in the Donetsk City Hall. Many are beyond repair.

Ukraine's Social Affairs Ministry says the government has compensation measures in place for damaged houses, adding that regional governments are obliged to provide temporary accommodation for people in need. But in reality, residents of destroyed homes find no officials to turn to — forcing them to find their own shelter.

## Sri Lanka: Unlikely to find landslide survivors

KOSLANDA, Sri Lanka — There was no hope of finding survivors after a landslide tore through a tea plantation, a Sri Lankan disaster official said Thursday, amid widely conflicting reports about how many people had been buried alive under the mud.

Disaster Management Minister Mahinda Amaraweera estimated the number of dead in Wednesday's disaster at the Koslanda tea plantation would be fewer than 100, although villagers said the figure could easily exceed 200.

Initial reports from Sri Lanka's Disaster Management Center said some 250 people were missing.

Heavy monsoon rains caused the landslide, which wiped out 120 tea workers' homes in Badulla district, said Lal Sarath Kumara, an official from the Disaster Management Center.

## Great Britain opens National Sperm Bank

LONDON — Britain opened a National Sperm Bank on Thursday to help meet rising demand for donors.

Officials said it is designed to help single women, men with fertility problems and same-sex couples to build families.

The bank was set up to counter a national shortage of sperm donors at a time when the number of patients seeking sperm donation is increasing. One goal is to increase donors from inside Britain to lessen reliance on sperm from other countries. Both Denmark and the United States supply large quantities of sperm to Britain to offset the shortage.

## Protesters storm Burkina Faso parliament

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso — Protesters stormed Burkina Faso's parliament Thursday, dragging furniture and computers onto the street and setting the main chamber ablaze, forcing the government to cancel a vote to allow the president to seek another term next year. Protesters swarmed other areas of the capital, Ouagadougou, and the country.

From The Associated Press

# Sweden stirs controversy by recognizing Palestinian state

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Sweden's new government on Thursday recognized a Palestinian state at a time of increased tensions between Arabs and Jews over Israel's plans to build about 1,000 housing units in east Jerusalem.

The EU member country joined only two other Western European countries — Malta and Cyprus — that have officially recognized a Palestinian state.

Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom said the Scandinavian country had decided on the move because the criteria of international law required for such recognition had been fulfilled.

"There is a territory, a people and government," she told reporters in Stockholm.

Wallstrom said she hopes Sweden's "excellent cooperation (with Israel) would continue" nevertheless and that the decision would be met in Jerusalem "in a constructive way."

Israel was quick to condemn Sweden's

move.

Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman described it as "a miserable decision that strengthens the extremist elements and Palestinian rejectionism."

The 28-nation European Union has said it would recognize a Palestinian state "when appropriate," and has urged that negotiations to achieve a two-state solution be resumed as soon as possible.

# 5K Zombie Run





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# WORLD

## Hero is honored for saving London from WWII flooding

The Associated Press

LONDON — Every day, boats full of tourists and commuters float by a pale patch on the wall that lines the River Thames near Britain's Houses of Parliament.

Few notice the concrete mark, or recognize it as evidence of how close London came to drowning during World War II. It is a piece of hidden history that has been uncovered by a team of professional and amateur archaeologists.

On Wednesday a group of engineers and civic dignitaries were to unveil a plaque commemorating Thomas Peirson Frank, leader of a secret squad of engineers and laborers who worked night after night during World War II to repair flood defenses hit in German air raids.

As bombs fell and fires raged, teams marshaled by Frank used rubble, sandbags and finally concrete to mend breaches in the Thames wall that threatened the inundation of thousands of businesses and homes.

"It could have brought London to its knees very, very easily," said Gustav Milne, director of the Thames Discovery Program, a project that brings together experts and volunteers to explore the archaeology of London's river.

"Not just people drowning — we would have lost buildings, it would have flooded the sewers and brought up all the sewage, it would have contaminated the



MATT DUNHAM/AP

**River Thames archaeology expert Gustav Milne on Tuesday stands next to a repaired section of the embankment river wall that was damaged by a German bomb dropped during World War II in London.**

water supplies, cut off gas and electricity. There would have been widespread devastation and huge loss of life."

London burned during the war, but it never flooded, due in large measure to Frank, chief engineer for the London County Council, and his crews.

But their story is little known — obscured first by wartime secrecy, then by gradual forgetting. That began to change when Milne and his team noticed the large concrete patch, 30 feet across at its widest, in the 19th-century river wall. Chunks of the wall's granite parapet lie scattered along the muddy river fore-

shore nearby.

The researchers suspected the damage had been done by a Luftwaffe bomb, but the agency in charge of the river did not have any record of it.

Deep in the London Metropolitan Archives, the researchers found files revealing the truth that had been hidden from Londoners during the war and later forgotten — the river wall was hit 121 times between 1940 and 1945, 84 of them during the Blitz of September 1940 to May 1941.

The number of bomb strikes on the river was suppressed at the time so as not to alarm Londoners or alert Nazi Germany to the city's vulnerability.

London was fortunate to have Frank, a ferociously well-organized and industrious civil servant who had served in World War I and by the 1930s was warning of the city's vulnerability to floods.

When war broke out, Frank was put in charge of maintaining London's roads and utilities. He set up four depots along the river, staffed by engineers and road repair crews, augmented by troops from the Royal Engineers.

Each time the river defenses were hit, Frank's teams were sent in, often while bombs were still falling and with little protective equipment.

"They were working in their own clothes ... in black toxic gunge," Milne said. "They didn't even have overalls provided, much less Wellington boots."



## Dino-mite

A child touches the model of a dinosaur, above, while workers transport a model, left, at the exhibition "World of Dinosaurs" in a former surface mining area in Grosspoesna near Leipzig, Germany, on Wednesday. More than 50 exhibits of different species of dinosaurs are on display until Nov. 30.

Photos by Jens Meyer/AP

## Japan trying to pick up pace to restart reactors

TOKYO — Japan quickened its pace to restarting its idled atomic reactors after local officials voted Tuesday to resume operations at Sendai's nuclear plant on the nation's southern island.

Council members for the town of Satsumasendai on the island of Kyushu voted 19-4 to restart the reactors as soon as possible in an almost 3½-hour meeting interrupted frequently by the shouts of protesters opposing the measure.

"If they do manage to restart these, it would obviously make the follow-on reactors a lot easier to deal with," Tom O'Sullivan, founder of Tokyo-based energy consultant Mathyos, said before the vote. "It kind of opens up the path to further restarts in different areas."

Sendai's two reactors are the first of Japan's atomic plants in line to restart under tougher safety rules set by the Nuclear Regulation Authority, the agency created after the Fukushima disaster to restore confidence in the industry. Japan's 48 operable reactors are offline and their future has created a deep divide over atomic power.

From wire reports



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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Unopened mail to judge found under desk

**TX** DALLAS — Dallas County officials say some mail addressed to a criminal court judge went unopened for two years.

Workers last week found about 700 unopened pieces of mail stuffed inside boxes and a bag under a court coordinator's desk after her last day of work.

Some letters were from defendants about their cases and contained checks to pay fines and court costs.

The messages were addressed to 282nd District Court Judge Andy Chatham, who is leaving the bench by year's end. He said the district clerk's office is reading each letter, and so far, it appears that no cases have been affected.

## Injured hawk ready for release after recovery

**WI** ONALASKA — A red-tailed hawk has been rehabilitated and is ready to be released in the Chippewa Valley after it survived a 140-mile journey stuck in the grill of a vehicle.

A.J. the hawk was rescued in July after it collided with a vehicle north of Chippewa Falls. The driver initially thought the bird was dead and was unable to remove it from the grill.

The hawk had two broken bones in one wing, according to Kathy KasaKaitas, animal control protection and rescue supervisor at the Coulee Region Humane Society in Onalaska. Although raptors with badly broken wings are usually euthanized, A.J. was given a chance to recover after surviving such odds, she said. KasaKaitas will try to bring the hawk back to where it originally came from to rejoin its former surroundings and companion.

The raptor was named after Green Bay Packer linebacker A.J. Hawk.

## 'Hello Kitty' arrested on drunken driving charge

**ME** GORHAM — Police say a Maine woman who was pulled over while wearing a Hello Kitty costume was arrested on a drunken driving charge.

Gorham police say officers stopped Carrie Gipson, 37, of Westbrook, at about 2 a.m. Sunday because she driving in the wrong lane.

They say she refused to take a breath test and was arrested for operating under the influence. She was taken to the Cumberland County jail.

Her police mugshot shows her wearing a red and white Hello Kitty costume, minus the doll's mammoth head.

## Heiress leaves \$40M to boarding school

**VA** MIDDLEBURG — A small boarding school in northern Virginia last month is the recipient of the largest ever gift to a secondary girls' school: a \$40 million bequest from a



MARK BUONASKI, KALAMAZOO (MICH.) GAZETTE/AP

## Giant mummy haunts Mich. town

Richard Underly looks up at his giant mummy in Portage, Mich., on Thursday. At 23 feet high, the mummy is nearing twice the size as last year's Halloween decoration. "It made me popular and put me on the map," Underly said.

Standard Oil heiress who liked to drive around in an Oldsmobile station wagon.

Ruth Bedford of Westport, Conn., died in June at age 99. She volunteered with the Red Cross in England during World War II, worked as a stage manager on Broadway, and was known to enjoy a glass of Scotch.

She had informed her alma mater, the Foxcroft School in Middleburg, that she planned to remember it in her will, but school administrators were stunned when they learned she had bequeathed \$40 million. The gift doubles the school's endowment.

## Falling coconut sends lifeguard to the hospital

**HI** HONOLULU — A Honolulu lifeguard is recovering from a head injury after he was struck by a falling coconut at Hanalei Bay.

KHON-TV reports Harold Teshima on Friday afternoon had climbed down from his lifeguard tower to start cleaning up when he was hit in the head.

He woke up in a daze, felt his

forehead and discovered blood dripping down his nose.

Fellow lifeguards found a 3- to 4-pound coconut the size of a softball nearby. Teshima was taken to a hospital and diagnosed with a concussion, cut, neck strain and nausea.

Teshima said lifeguards two or three weeks ago reported coconuts the size of golf balls or bigger were falling.

## Mayor: City plow blades will keep Jesus theme

**SD** SIOUX FALLS — The mayor of Sioux Falls said the city will not paint over religious messages that parochial school students put on city-owned snow plow blades unless it is legally forced to do so.

Mayor Mike Huether told KELO-AM radio on Tuesday that the city is holding firm in its position: "Unless, I guess, I get some Supreme Court case (that) says that I have to."

Students at Lutheran High School and Sioux Falls Lutheran School painted the plow blades as part of the city's Paint the Plows

program. One blade includes the words "Jesus Christ" and the other "Happy Birthday Jesus."

The Siouxland Freethinkers complained to the city, saying the religious artwork on publicly owned vehicles violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

City Attorney David Pfeifle said officials are still doing a "delicate balancing test" between competing clauses within the First Amendment, including free speech, freedom of religion and the separation of church and state.

"Our goal is to not paint them over, and we're exploring every option," he said.

## Large flightless bird closes highway

**IN** PERU — Police say a large flightless bird forced the closing of a northern Indiana highway for about 10 minutes while officers and motorists tried to corral it.

The 5-foot-tall bird called a rhea escaped from a farm Monday and ran onto U.S. 24 near

## THE CENSUS



**12** The number of children a western Michigan couple have — all boys. And another child is on the way, due May 9. Even though Jay and Kateri Schwandt of Rockford are sticking to their tradition of not finding out in advance whether they're having a boy or girl, they said they'd be shocked if their streak is broken. Jay said he would love to have a girl, but they're just hoping for a healthy baby. Still, he would like to see the effect of adding a girl to the family of 12 boys, ages 1 to 22. "I've experienced all the boy stuff," he said. "... It would be really neat to experience the other side." Kateri said she would lean toward having one more boy. "A little girl would be neat to have in the house, but a little boy kind of takes the pressure off," she said. "We know what we are doing. Why change things up?"

Peru, about 80 miles north of Indianapolis. Rheas are native to South America and similar to ostriches and emus.

State Police 1st Sgt. Bob Burgess tells the Kokomo Tribune an animal control officer shot the bird with a tranquilizer dart but the bird fled into traffic. Meanwhile, officers contacted the previous owner of the bird, who arrived on the scene and was able to tackle it.

Burgess says the previous owner loaded the bird into a pickup truck and returned it to its new owner.

## Low supply has road salt provider scrambling

**OH** TOLEDO — An Indiana company that supplies road salt to Ohio is importing shipments from the northern African nation of Morocco because of the short supply and high prices.

Midwest Salt plans to bring in 171,000 tons through the port of Toledo.

"Typically, we're purchasing from domestic producers as well, but this was the next-best option," said Andrew Thiele, president of Midwest Salt, which is based in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Most of the salt that typically comes through the Toledo port is from mines in northeast Ohio or southern Ontario, not from overseas.

Ohio used more than 1 million tons of salt on state roads last year — a nearly 60 percent increase over the average. The average price per ton was \$35 a year ago. This year, it's up to more than \$100 per ton. A few counties received no bids from suppliers.

From wire reports



# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Samsung vows changes as profit falls

By YOUNG LEE  
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Samsung Electronics Co. admitted errors in its smartphone strategy and vowed Thursday to overhaul its handset lineup after profit from those devices tumbled last quarter to the lowest in more than three years.

The South Korean company, which climbed from smartphone laggard to top seller in the past

three years, had prided itself on responding quickly to market demand and its ability to tailor handsets to the needs of users and mobile carriers around the world.

But its rapid success with a product category pioneered by rival Apple Inc. is undergoing an equally stunning reversal. Earnings from Samsung's mobile phone business began declining this year, undermined by lukewarm sales of the Galaxy

S5 smartphone and the competitive onslaught from cheaper local brands in China and India. Apple also eroded Samsung's leading market share in developed nations.

In a rare acknowledgment of a misstep, the company's head of investor relations told an earnings conference call that Samsung had lagged behind changing market conditions. The company's response "was not quick enough," said the executive, Robert Yi.

It plans a significant change in smartphone strategy for next year to seek more "efficiency," implying that the number of new handset models might be reduced. That will allow the company to better focus on each product and to purchase components at cheaper prices to save costs.

The drop in earnings from the mobile business battered the South Korea company's quarterly net profit, which tumbled 49 percent to \$4 billion.

### EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$3.356	\$3.551	\$3.728	\$3.538
Change in price	-6.4 cents	-7.1 cents	-7.4 cents	-2.1 cents
Netherlands	—	\$4.294	\$4.565	\$4.494
Change in price	—	-13.0 cents	-13.6 cents	-1.5 cents
U.K.	—	\$3.521	\$4.057	\$3.908
Change in price	—	-7.1 cents	-6.0 cents	-2.1 cents
Azores	—	—	\$3.748	—
Change in price	—	—	-8.2 cents	—
Turkey	—	\$3.753	\$3.952	\$3.976
Change in price	—	no change	no change	no change
Italy	—	—	\$4.109	\$4.718*
Change in price	—	—	no change	no change
Italy	\$4.428	—	\$4.466	—
Change in price	+22.7 cents	—	+18.9 cents	—

### PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	—	\$3.509	—	\$3.719
Change in price	—	-8.0 cents	—	-2.0 cents
Okinawa	\$3.359	—	—	\$3.719
Change in price	no change	—	—	-2.0 cents
South Korea	\$3.179	\$3.549	\$3.759	—
Change in price	-7.0 cents	-8.0 cents	-2.0 cents	—
Guam	\$3.169**	\$3.359	\$3.539	—
Change in price	-7.0 cents	-8.0 cents	-8.5 cents	—

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade  
For the week of Nov. 1-7

### MARKET WATCH

Oct. 29, 2014	
Dow Jones Industrials	-31.44
Nasdaq composite	-15.06
Standard & Poor's 500	-2.75
Russell 2000	-3.08
St. Louis	-1,146.37

### EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rates	Commercial rates
Euro costs (Oct. 31)	\$1.2937	
Dollar buys (Oct. 31)	€0.7764	
British pound (Oct. 31)	\$1.64	
Japanese yen (Oct. 31)	¥105.00	
South Korean won (Oct. 31)	₩1,028.00	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771	
British pound	\$1.6008/6247	
Canada (dollar)	1.1181	
China (Yuan)	6.1145	
Denmark (Krone)	5.9660	
Egypt (Pound)	7.1506	
Euro	\$1.2610/7930	
Hong Kong (Dollar)	244.92	
Hungary (Forint)	793.70	
Israel (Shekel)	3.7704	
Japan (Yen)	108.95	
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2896	
Norway (Krone)	6.7220	
Philippines (Peso)	44.85	
Poland (Zloty)	33.45	
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7516	
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2779	
South Korea (Won)	1,055.04	
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9564	
Thailand (Baht)	32.57	
Turkey (New Lira)	2.2083	

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., rates provided for reference when buying currency with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	3.05

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



### Friday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex.	67	46	Cir	Chatanooga	62	41	Cir	Fort Wayne	45	40	Snow	Louisville	52	46	Cir	Pocatello	69	37	PCldy
Akron, Ohio	49	39	PCldy	Cheyenne	54	32	PCldy	Goodland	74	56	Cir	Lubbock	63	41	PCldy	Portland, Maine	51	35	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	47	33	Cir	Chicago	41	36	Cir	Grand Rapids	52	27	PCldy	Macon	70	43	Cir	Portland, Ore.	57	52	Rain
Albuquerque	68	43	PCldy	Cincinnati	46	43	Rain	Green Bay	41	40	Snow	Medford	56	50	Rain	Providence	62	31	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	57	34	Cir	Cleveland	48	41	Rain	Great Falls	41	40	PCldy	Memphis	62	48	Cir	Raleigh-Durham	64	41	PCldy
Amarillo	66	40	PCldy	Colorado Springs	57	31	Cir	Hartford	55	38	Cir	Miami Beach	85	70	PCldy	Rapid City	50	26	Cir
Anchorage	33	24	Cir	Columbia, S.C.	70	42	PCldy	Indianapolis	39	32	Cir	Midland-Odessa	68	47	PCldy	Roanoke	66	44	Cir
Asheville	59	36	Cir	Columbus, Ga.	71	45	Cir	Jacksonville	59	43	Cir	Milwaukee	42	36	Cir	Rochester	50	38	Rain
Atlanta	66	40	PCldy	Concord, N.H.	46	41	Rain	Juneau	44	39	Rain	Minneapolis-St. Paul	40	28	Cir	Rockford	74	40	Cir
Atlantic City	59	40	Cir	Columbia, Mo.	52	37	Cir	Laurens	68	37	PCldy	Missoula	57	29	Cir	Sacramento	66	56	Cir
Austin	66	41	Cir	Corpus Christi	83	66	PCldy	Helena	68	37	PCldy	Montgomery	71	44	Cir	St. Louis	48	39	PCldy
Baltimore	58	41	Cir	Dallas-Ft. Worth	64	33	Cir	Honolulu	86	74	Rain	New Orleans	74	55	Cir	St. Petersburg	79	68	Cir
Baton Rouge	73	49	Cir	Dayton	44	42	Cir	Houston	75	56	Cir	New York City	57	44	Cir	St. Thomas	88	78	Cir
Bilings	66	36	Cir	Daytona Beach	79	62	PCldy	Huntsville	59	43	PCldy	Nashville	54	45	Cir	Salt Lake City	55	51	Rain
Birmingham	67	42	Cir	Denver	46	33	PCldy	Indianapolis	50	42	Snow	Newark	58	43	PCldy	Salt Lake City	73	47	PCldy
Bismarck	41	17	Cir	Des Moines	43	34	Cir	Jacksonville	71	49	Cir	New York City	57	44	Cir	San Diego	71	52	PCldy
Boise	68	49	Cir	Detroit	44	41	Snow	Juneau	74	55	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	62	46	PCldy	San Francisco	67	60	Cir
Boston	53	42	Cir	El Paso	74	55	PCldy	Kansas City	44	39	Rain	North Platte	46	23	PCldy	San Jose	63	36	PCldy
Bridgeport	56	41	Cir	Elkins	52	35	Rain	Key West	81	73	Cir	Oklahoma City	58	43	PCldy	St. Louis	64	31	Cir
Brownsville	85	67	PCldy	Erie	49	42	Rain	Knoxville	60	39	Cir	Omaha	43	32	Cir	St. Mary	61	31	Cir
Buffalo	47	40	Cir	Evansville	58	49	Rain	Laurens	75	53	Cir	Orlando	81	64	PCldy	Seattle	72	49	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	47	37	PCldy	Fairbanks	50	44	Cir	Lansing	42	40	Snow	Paderborn	53	44	PCldy	Shreveport	70	52	Cir
Caribou, Maine	43	30	Cir	Fargo	17	2	Cir	Las Vegas	84	62	PCldy	Pendleton	59	50	Rain				
Charleston, S.C.	68	31	Cir	Flagstaff	67	34	PCldy	Lincoln	45	31	Cir	Phoenix	92	67	Cir				
Charleston, W.Va.	52	42	Rain	Flint	41	39	Snow	Little Rock	64	48	Cir	Philadelphia	59	42	Cir				
Charlotte, N.C.	64	43	PCldy	Fort Smith	61	46	Cir	Los Angeles	73	62	Cir	Pittsburgh	51	38	Rain				

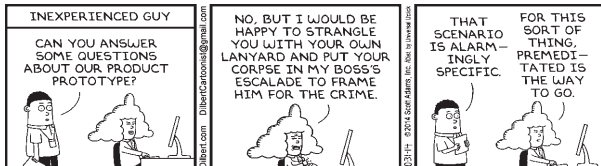
The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Wed., 94, Hattiesburg, Miss.  
Lo: Wed., 11, Hattiesburg, Miss.

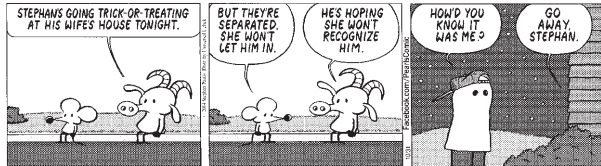
Frazz



Dilbert



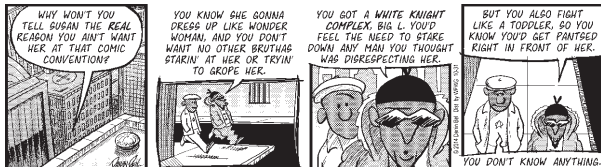
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



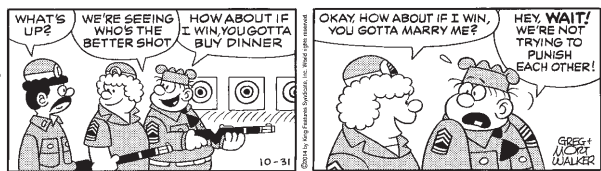
Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16			17			
			18			19			20			
21	22			23				24				
25			26		27		28					
29				30			31			32	33	34
				35			36		37			
38	39	40				41		42		43		
44					45				46			
47					48			49		50	51	
52					53			54				
55					56			57				

### ACROSS

- Singing ability, slangily
- What couch potatoes do
- Chapeau
- Chris of tennis fame
- AOL or MSN
- Ostrich's cousin
- Intrinsically
- Stretchy fabric
- Just grating
- Curved molding
- Crony
- Chess piece
- States with conviction
- Couturier Cassini
- Asian cuisine staple
- Singer
- Nightingale
- Fishing gear
- Sex exuberance
- Verve
- Pancetta, e.g.
- Fish eggs
- Type measures
- First victim
- Bottle attachment
- Obsolescent file
- Midwest peninsula
- Prior night
- Afternoon, in a way
- Portents

- Society newcomer
- Away from WSW
- Proverb

### DOWN

- Energy
- "Got a Secret"
- Baffle
- Gaelic
- Watt's power
- Hindu god
- Catch sight of
- Coll. transcript stat
- Bet both ways
- Eastern potentate (Var.)
- Formal wear
- Tyro
- Docket entries
- Lap dog, for short
- Chicken-king link
- Paired escort
- Descend (to)
- Sister
- Tissue brand
- Felon's flight
- Halves of 43-Across
- "The Honeymooners" role
- Exposed
- Over
- Star
- salts
- Rhinelander's refusal
- Peru's capital
- Trivial Pursuit prop
- Violinist Kavanian
- Doctrine

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

D	I	L	L	W	I	Z	S	W	I	G
E	R	I	E	A	R	E	T	A	R	O
L	O	N	G	T	A	R	E	T	A	L
I	N	T	I	M	E	O	F	F	E	N
		O	U	R		A	F	R		
D	A	W	N	S	A	W	M	I	L	L
U	S	A	K	I	A			O	A	K
O	P	T	I	M	I	S	T	L	O	G
		E	G	O		E	P	A		
S	P	R	U	N	G	R	O	S	T	E
C	U	B	A	L	A	B	T	R	A	Y
A	M	E	N	I	D	O	L	U	R	E
D	A	D	A	B	A	Y	Y	E	N	S

10-31

### CRYPTOQUIP

BMOP GMO RMDXFLIM GMLOE

BYI QYXRMG IGOYFLPR

SYNLDXI MOYCIGDPOI, MO

EYQOC RNYSO QMYNROI.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'D BARELY AWOKEN WHEN I NOTICED WATER DRIPPING THROUGH MY CEILING. THIS MUST BE MY LEAKY DAY!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals H

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

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# OPINION

## Fixing the VA requires fresh thinking

By JIM MARSHALL

Six months ago, the nation was appalled to learn of a wide-ranging Department of Veterans Affairs scandal in which department officials had systematically falsified records on patient wait times and appointments with physicians for performance bonuses. Veterans waited months to receive care, and instead of fighting to cut those wait times, a shell game ensued to cover them up.

The challenges facing veterans' health care have since slipped from the front pages, but the department still has a long way to go when it comes to providing timely and quality care to veterans. Unreasonably delayed care can rise to the level of denied care; it's certainly diminished care. The VA must do better. It's up to veterans — and those who fight for their best interests — to hold both the department and our elected representatives accountable for better results.

I speak from experience. After the Tet Offensive in 1968, I left college and enlisted to serve in Vietnam. Thankfully, my disability from combat wounds is minor, but it led to a number of contacts with the VA over many years, leaving me with the impression of an organization that is well-intentioned, but hugely bureaucratic and often slow and sloppy. This impression is consistent with additional insight I've gleaned from fellow veterans, particularly those who contacted me as a member of Congress, literally by the hundreds.

Of course this wasn't a random sample of those served by the VA. People in general recall and share with others their bad experiences more often than their good ones. Veterans are no different. When they contact a member of Congress, it is almost always to lodge a complaint. But even taking this imperfect sample into account, I could

only conclude that the VA has lots of room for significant improvement, a view widely shared by other members of Congress.

This summer, Congress passed legislation aimed at reforming VA health care by demanding greater accountability and transparency from the department bureaucracy and extending health care choice options for beneficiaries. And the VA has new leadership in the form of a new secretary, Robert McDonald, who is experienced in health care administration.

But I believe these steps are only the beginning of what must be a journey toward transformation of the way our nation delivers health care to veterans. And given the repeated calls for reform over decades, it is unrealistic to expect the much-needed road map for appropriate transformation to come from within the VA. Like other large, long-lived bureaucracies, VA planning inevitably gives too much weight to the status quo and institutional expectations. So the planning process to fix VA health care should be led by experts and stakeholders outside the agency who will not give undue weight to the needs of the VA bureaucracy.

Toward that end, Concerned Veterans for America launched a bipartisan initiative in September: the Fixing Veterans Health Care policy task force, of which I am proud to serve as one of four co-chairs.

My co-chairs on this task force are three distinguished health care policy leaders: Dr. Bill Frist, a cardiothoracic transplant surgeon who represented Tennessee in the U.S. Senate from 1995 until 2007; Dr. Mike Kussman, who served as the VA's undersecretary for health from 2007 until 2009, and Avrik Roy, a noted health care scholar with the Manhattan Institute.

The goal of this bipartisan task force is simple: We want to identify the challenges to veterans' health care, identify solutions, and propose concrete reforms to improve

care delivery. Later this year, we will issue a set of concrete recommendations that we hope will serve as the basis for reform legislation in the next Congress in 2015.

In developing our recommendations, we intend to draw from a wide range of perspectives. We will consult with the foremost health care management experts, former and current VA employees, veterans organizations, members of Congress, and — most importantly — veterans themselves and their families.

Through the "submission portal" on our task force website (taskforce.cvva.org), we are asking veterans to tell their stories and offer their advice. We want to get the most accurate accounting, directly from veterans and their loved ones, about what the VA system is doing well, and what needs to be changed. This testimony will play a valuable role in shaping the direction of the task force's recommendations.

Having been the beneficiary of VA services, I know the department is fortunate to have a large number of employees who are deeply dedicated to veterans and their needs. These professionals are often stymied by the department's calcified culture, and they can be counted on to embrace positive change that empowers them to do their best on behalf of veterans and their families.

But for that vision to become a reality, the VA and its congressional overseers would benefit from forward-looking reform suggestions that put the veteran at the center of their care, and empower them to receive the best possible outcomes. It is our goal to provide that guidance through this task force.

Jim Marshall, a Georgia Democrat, served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2003 to 2011. He was a recon platoon sergeant in the Vietnam War and is a member of the U.S. Army Ranger Hall of Fame.

## Democratic candidates should embrace Obama

By PENEL E. JOSEPH

The Root

Less than one week before the midterm elections, President Barack Obama has, in many parts of the country, become the man who wasn't there. Swing-state Democrats are afraid to mention his name in public, and consultants are cringing over interviews in which Obama has proclaimed that the upcoming election represents a referendum on his administration's policy initiatives.

Welcome to midterm elections featuring an unpopular incumbent.

Obama's low approval ratings, predictions of low voter turnout and the president's own halting performance on foreign policy matters have given Republicans a perfect storm of fear and anxiety as the election approaches.

Journalists and pundits are having a field day, with conservatives and liberals alike blasting the president as the bystander in chief who appears clueless as the world around him burns.

The Ebola outbreak, the Islamic State insurgency and racial tensions in Ferguson, Mo., have inspired cautious deliberation rather than bold leadership from the Obama administration — a posture that has caused his enemies to pounce and friends to retreat.

The Obama brand is undeniably damaged, but it's still the best brand the Democratic Party has.

The coalition of voters who elected Obama to the White House in 2008 and

2012 seek more, not less, progressive government, public policy reforms and social justice. Yet Democratic candidates currently running away from the president and his record now do so out of a belief that this is the pragmatic route to getting elected in typically red states like Alaska and purple states like New Hampshire.

But states are not nations. The Democratic Party nominee in 2016, like it or not, will effectively be running for Obama's third term. Similarly, George H.W. Bush promised a continuation of Ronald Reagan's legacy in 1988 and won, by contrast, Al Gore distanced himself from popular but scandal-plagued Bill Clinton in 2000 and lost.

The likeliest Democratic presidential contenders — Hillary Rodham Clinton, Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, et al. — can win only by convincing the almost 67 million Americans who voted for the president in 2008 and the almost 65 million who reelected him four years later that they share Obama's priorities.

Obama steered Democrats to two consecutive presidential election wins, not by appealing to moderates and centrists but by expanding the pool of voters and following the demographic wave that made voters of color more powerful than ever.

Democrats would be wise to concentrate on this more virtuous side of the ledger on this election season. The administration's policy legacy includes the Affordable Care Act, the stimulus bill, environmental reforms and efforts to wind down two wars

started by Republicans.

The idea that Obama has become an albatross around the necks of Democrats is true only so far as midterm elections go. In two short years, amid assessments of the president's accomplishments, failures and ultimate legacy, Democrats will be scrambling to raise funds and expand the electorate for the next election cycle. Obama's stature will seem more formidable, once again, as voters look to see which candidate the president whom they supported ultimately endorsed.

Yes, at times, the president has been his own worst enemy, appearing tired and disinterested in recent stump speeches for Democratic candidates in places like Maryland, where his presence on the campaign trail is still seen as a positive. He's never enjoyed the handshaking, schmoozing and social interaction that Bill Clinton loved — something that still inspires resentment among elected officials and Washington insiders.

But like it or not, Obama and the Democratic Party are stuck with each other. Democrats in 2014 and 2016 can continue to distance themselves from the president at their own and the party's peril. Obama's brand, however flawed, is already guaranteed a powerful legacy of its own.

Penel E. Joseph, a contributing editor at The Root, is founding director of the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy and a Tufts University history professor. He is also a fellow for Harvard's W.E.B. Du Bois Research Institute and author of "Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America," "Dark Days, Bright Nights: From Black Power to Barack Obama" and "Stokeley: A Life."



## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### Why risk new subprime crisis? The Orange County (Calif.) Register

Are we really this imprudent? Mel Watt, currently head of the Federal Housing Finance Authority, recently announced plans — in a speech at a Las Vegas casino, of all places — to allow mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which he regulates, to purchase loans with down payments as low as 3 percent. The goal is to enable more borrowers with bad credit or low income to buy homes, which may be good for banks and the housing industry in the short term, but would be an unmitigated disaster for the American people.

And it's one we already lived through a few short years ago. It's been dubbed "the Great Recession." We know exactly what had lending policies led us up to the brink of that precipice and, yet, here we go again.

We've accepted as a culture that it was greedy bankers who sparked the crisis, and they were certainly happy to join the party. However, it was just this type of deliberately loose standards at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, encouraged at the time by George W. Bush's White House, that actually lit the fuse by promoting and buying high-risk loans from banks because the government was on a political crusade to encourage homeownership, even for those who fundamentally could not afford it.

Watt is a longtime Democratic congressman appointed to the FHFA by President Barack Obama in January, and he is clearly more interested in pursuing ideological goals than keeping lending policy stable and sensible.

"Through these revised guidelines... enterprises will be able to responsibly serve a targeted segment of creditworthy borrowers with lower down-payment mortgages by taking into account compensating factors," Watt said to mortgage bankers gathered in a ballroom at the Mandalay Bay hotel and casino.

What are those "compensating factors"? We have no idea. We do know he could not have picked a more appropriate venue to announce his plan than a casino, because this is gambling on a breathtakingly reckless level.

Banks love to write lucrative loans to people with little financial understanding, then sell the risk of failing to pay to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, which had to be bailed out by the government to the tune of \$187 billion the last time this was tried.

And make no mistake, the pervasive and perverting influence of ideological social-judicial initiatives will prove an economic disaster for the very people they intend to help. If lenders are able to give priority borrowers with identical credit circumstances as white borrowers, as the Urban League and others who have been agitating for these policy changes assert, that is already illegal. Prosecution is the answer, not lower standards.

### Ukrainians' mandate: Go west Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Ukraine's parliamentary election, which concluded with a modest 51 percent turnout, constitutes a victory for the country's pro-Western political parties.

The results, however, fail to deal with three major problems. The first is the fighting that continues to sputter in the east, centered on the self-declared independent Donetsk People's Republic. Donetsk, which did not participate in Sunday's vote, has



EVGENIY MALOETSKA/AP

A woman reads a ballot paper in her house during parliamentary elections in Konstantinovka, Ukraine, on Sunday.

scheduled its own election for next month. Fighting there pits Ukrainian government forces against separatist forces supported by Russia.

The second unresolved problem is the bruising that remains from Russia's annexation of Crimea, also in Ukraine's east, on the Black Sea. What happened there is a violent modification of Europe's post-World War II borders and is difficult for the European Union, particularly its former Warsaw Pact members, to accept as a done deal. Continuing EU sanctions against Russia still turn in part on the Crimea question.

The third problem is the dire straits that Ukraine finds itself in as a result of the political and other turmoil there since a popular uprising in Kiev ousted elected President Viktor Yanukovich in February. The departing president and his cohorts had looted the country's treasury of an estimated \$70 billion. Russia has taken the position, based on anger at the sanctions levied against it by the U.S. and the EU, that it will provide the natural gas that Ukraine needs this winter only with advance payment.

Ukraine's two key leaders, Petro Poroshenko and Arseniy Yatsenyuk, who will likely form the coalition that will now rule Ukraine, are probably more honest than Yanukovich was but are not especially inspiring in their capacity to deal with Ukraine's problems. It's a positive sign, though, that they received a fairly clear mandate in the part of Ukraine where their governance is accepted.

### Tagging Yosemite is not art The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee

In the 10 million years since the Sierra Nevada heaved from the earth and the colossus that is now Yosemite National Park was created, the artifacts of many life forms have come and gone.

So it will be, no doubt, for the work of "CreepyTings," the tagger whose graffiti appeared this summer along Yosemite's Mist Trail.

Done in acrylic on a formerly pristine mountain, the stupid white head with the snake in its mouth is just one in a series of marks left, authorities believe, by a 21-year-old New York woman who apparently spent her summer vandalizing Western landmarks and posting pictures of her handiwork on Instagram and Tumblr.

The images, signed with her moniker, created a furor last week after they showed up on Reddit, the techie website. Appalled, Los Angeles blogger Casey Schreiner posted an assortment of screen grabs on his site, Modern Hiker.

And what an assortment: a woman's

head scrawled onto Telescope Peak in Death Valley. A blue-haired profile, like something from the back of a teenager's notebook, overlooking the sapphire waters of Oregon's Crater Lake.

A line drawing the size of a backpack on a Zion National Park outcropping. Photos of the woman taking a black magic marker to the stunning rock formations in Canyonlands National Park and crawling heedlessly over protected Native American pictographs in Joshua Tree National Monument.

In the long view, the vandalism, which has prompted a National Park Service investigation, might be viewed as just an extreme version of the graffiti that has shown up worldwide in breathtaking places for as long as those places have been accessible to humans.

To experience beauty is to yearn to possess it. ... And it is true that, as John Muir once wrote, "Nature is always lovely, invincible, glad, whatever is done and suffered by her creatures." Yosemite, over the years, has outlasted all manner of human trespass, including a car dealership that once sold Cadillacs and 21st-century shuttles buzzing the park with drone cameras. Any landscape that can survive the Rim fire can handle this.

Nonetheless, the Park Service should throw the book at CreepyTings when they find and arrest her. The great landscapes of the West are national treasures. They were preserved to inspire generations to come.

Preserving on isn't art. It's theft. And it's the worst sort of theft, because graffiti is an invasive species. One mark encourages the next, until the urge to claim turf ruins a whole vista.

If the stark grandeur of the West offers one gift for our ephemeral life form, it's the gift of experiencing, for a moment, the presence of something bigger than humans.

Too bad CreepyTings didn't feel big enough to look up from that rock while she was defacing a place that has been there for eons. The view from the Mist Trail offers a whole new perspective. One might even call it art.

### Hard to limit health care costs Los Angeles Times

Critics of the 2010 Affordable Care Act complain that it doesn't do much to control the health care costs that are becoming unsustainable for families and businesses. In fact, the law does many small things; the latest is the grant program announced last week to teach Medicare and Medicaid doctors new ways to offer higher-quality, better-coordinated, more cost-effective

care. The four-year goal is to turn \$840 million in grants into \$5 billion in savings — a number that sounds big until it's compared with the nearly \$4 trillion in annual health care spending in the United States. The modesty of the effort reflects the reality that there's just no easy way to put a lid on health care costs.

The Congressional Budget Office projects that major federal health programs could cost 85 percent more in 10 years than they do today. That's because multiple forces are driving up health care expenditures, including new technologies and medications, the prevalence of chronic disease, and payment systems that give doctors and hospitals incentives to perform ever-more procedures.

Those forces can't be counteracted by simply placing a limit on how much people spend on health care or how much doctors and hospitals charge. Such approaches would ration care, directly or indirectly. Instead, any effort to slow the growth in spending has to shift the incentives in the system so that doctors and patients alike are motivated to reduce the demand for care.

The 2010 law starts that process, but it's no ocean feat to change the economics of the health care system. Part of the challenge is figuring out how doctors can prosper by delivering better care at lower cost. The grant program announced Oct. 23, which is funded by the 2010 law, aims to identify those techniques and spread them to the roughly 150,000 doctors across America.

### Cuba emboldened ahead The Miami Herald

In October 1960, the United States imposed an embargo on exports to Cuba covering all commodities except medical supplies and certain food products. That was the beginning of a trade embargo that still endures and still inspires heated debate.

The anniversary of the embargo this week, plus the United Nations' annual vote condemning it, have prompted calls for a reassessment. Dropping the embargo altogether would require action by Congress. Meanwhile, anti-embargo advocates say, there's a lot the president can do to soften or minimize its effects and open the door to restoring full ties with Cuba.

We disagree. Such a move would be premature and utterly lacking in justification at this time.

Granted, Raúl Castro has loosened the reins on the tightly controlled economy to permit more individual businesses. Some citizens can own property, and new rules are designed to encourage foreign investment. But it's only because Cuba has been frozen in time for so long that such minimal change seems so drastic. The Cuban need for a free market, the Soviet planned economy that largely remains in place, and its members remain its major beneficiaries.

Some see vague government statements from Havana welcoming renewed diplomatic ties with the U.S. as a sign that it's willing to negotiate longstanding differences. We would attribute that not to any goodwill but rather to Cuba hedging its bets as it nervously watches the slide in oil prices and the rise of political instability in Venezuela.

Any American country has been the Castro brother, a main benefactor in the last few years, helping prop up Cuba's chronically weak economy with cheap oil. But if oil prices continue to drop, Venezuela's Nicolas Maduro ... won't hesitate to throw Cuba under the bus if it means survival for the Cuban regime. The U.S. has to consider the timing of any move by Washington toward Havana particularly inappropriate. Why throw it a lifeline now ...

Is there any doubt that the Castro brothers remain committed to maintaining their dictatorship over Cuba? Of course not. As long as the regime remains the case, the U.S. has no incentive to extend a welcoming hand.

# SCOREBOARD

## Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net

## Tennis

### Paris Masters

At Palais Omnisports de Paris-Bercy

Purse: \$3.6 million; Masters 1000

Surface: Hard; Indoor

Singles

Second round

Stan Wawrinka (3), Switzerland, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 6-4, 7-6 (6).

Milos Raonic (7), Canada, def. Jack Sock, United States, 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (6).

Roberto Bautista Agut (11), Spain, def. Richard Gasquet, France, 6-4, 6-0.

David Ferrer (4), Spain, def. David Goffin, Belgium, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3.

Murray (5), Britain, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 6-3, 6-4.

Grigor Dimitrov (9), Bulgaria, def. Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, 6-0, 6-3.

Querry, United States, 6-4, 6-4.

Joey Rizzoli, France, 6-0, 6-7 (5).

Cuevas, Uruguay, 6-0, 6-3.

Roder Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Joao Sousa, Portugal, 6-3, 6-4.

Lucas Pouille, France, def. Fabio Fognini (16), Italy, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (7).

Andreas Seppi (10), France, def. Jurgen Melzer, Austria, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2.

Kiki Nikolic (6), Japan, def. Tommy Robredo, Spain, 6-2, 6-0, 6-3.

Gael Monfils, France, def. John Isner (11), United States, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

Monfils, France, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

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Monfils, France, 6-4, 7-6 (4).

## College basketball

### Wednesday's scores

**SOUTH**

Bryan 87, Hwasan 62

Georgetown (N.Y.) 131, Ohio St.-Newark 60

Milligan 76, Johnson 44

Xavier (Ind.) 82, West Virginia 82

College football

**Saturday**

**South**

Tulsa (1-6) at Memphis (3-5)

Air Force (3-2) at Tulane (2-5)

**Saturday**

**East**

Cincinnati (4-2) at Army (2-5)

CCSU (2-6) at Bryant (6-1)

Rhode Island (0-8) at Delaware (4-4)

Lehigh (5-0) at Georgetown (2-5)

Duke (6-1) at Marist (2-6)

Marquette (5-2) at Rutgers (2-5)

Wake Forest (1-1) at Pittsburgh (4-4)

Lafayette (0-8) at Bucknell (4-2)

Colgate (4-4) at Fordham (7-1)

East Carolina (1-6) at Temple (4-3)

Yale (5-2) at Columbia (1-6)

Princeton (3-3) at Cornell (0-6)

Lafayette (0-8) at Bucknell (4-2)

Colgate (4-4) at Fordham (7-1)

East Carolina (1-6) at Temple (4-3)

Yale (5-2) at Columbia (1-6)

Princeton (3-3) at Cornell (0-6)

Lafayette (0-8) at Bucknell (4-2)

Colgate (4-4) at Fordham (7-1)

East Carolina (1-6) at Temple (4-3)

Yale (5-2) at Columbia (1-6)

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Lafayette (0-8) at Bucknell (4-2)

Colgate (4-4) at Fordham (7-1)

East Carolina (1-6) at Temple (4-3)

Yale (5-2) at Columbia (1-6)

Princeton (3-3) at Cornell (0-6)

## Pro football

### NFL American conference

**West**

New England 6, 2-0

Indianapolis 5, 2-0

Tennessee 2, 6-0

Atlanta 3, 2-0

Carolina 3, 2-0

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## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## 10th-ranked TCU has road work in path to playoff

The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — That record 82-point game is already in the past for No. 10 TCU.

The Horned Frogs (6-1, 3-1 Big 12) now have some road work to do Saturday, going to No. 20 West Virginia for the first of consecutive games that could have a significant impact on determining the Big 12 champion and perhaps who might play in the college football playoff.

"I don't know if any of the games that we played on the road, except for the Baylor game that we played this year, would be more magnitude than what this ballgame is," TCU coach Gary Patterson said Tuesday, three days after TCU's 82-27 victory over Texas Tech.

West Virginia (6-2, 4-1) has a four-game winning streak that includes beating then-No. 4 Baylor 41-27 on Oct. 18, the Bears' only loss. The only losses this season for the Mountaineers were the season opener against then-No. 2 Alabama and their Big 12 opener versus then-No. 4 Oklahoma.

When the first College Football Playoff rankings were released Tuesday night, TCU was No. 7, the highest-ranked Big 12 team and 13 spots ahead of West Virginia.

The clash between the TCU and WVU is already garnering national attention. ESPN's College GameDay is setting up Saturday morning in Morgantown, West Virginia.

After that trip, the Frogs return home for a matchup against No. 11 Kansas State, the Big 12 leader but No. 9 in the playoff rankings.

Patterson expects receiver Josh Doctson, who rolled his right ankle against Texas Tech, to be able to play Saturday against the Mountaineers. But the coach said backup quarterback Matt Joeckel's season is likely over after he took a shot to the leg Saturday.

The Horned Frogs have already split a tough two-game swing



TCU (6-1)  
at West Virginia (6-2)  
AFN-Xtra  
8:30 p.m. Saturday CET  
4:30 a.m. Sunday JKT

against Oklahoma and Baylor, beating the Sooners at home before a wild 61-58 loss in Waco. But they almost certainly have to win the rest of their games to be part of the first four-team playoff.

Patterson pointed out that the Frogs have already accomplished one of their season goals.

"We wanted to get to be bowl eligible, we got to that point. Now everyone counts once," Patterson said. "Two tough games in a row. West Virginia going to Morgantown, really they're playing really well right now on both sides of the ball, and then Kansas State. You can say the same about them."

And talk about TCU the same way.

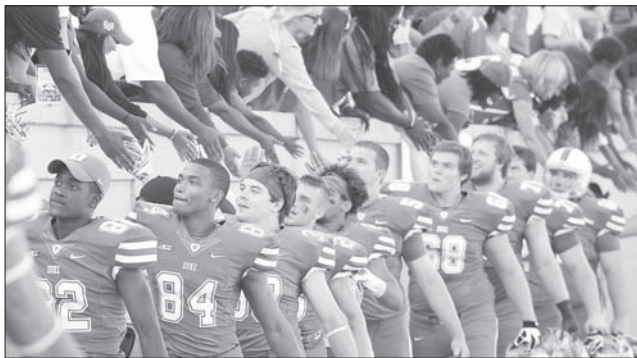
The Frogs are now the nation's highest-scoring at 50.4 points a game, while allowing less than 22 points. Junior dual-threat quarterback Trevone Boykin has established himself as a legitimate Heisman Trophy contender, including a career-high 433 yards with a school-record seven touchdown passes in the romp over Texas Tech.

During its current winning streak, West Virginia has held the potent offenses of Baylor and Oklahoma State in check. The Mountaineers won 34-10 at Oklahoma State last weekend.

"We're going to have to get ready," Patterson said. "We expect West Virginia to play its best game to date."

**"I don't know if any of the games that we played on the road, except for the Baylor game that we played this year, would be more magnitude than what this ballgame is."**

Gary Patterson  
TCU coach



BERNARD THOMAS, THE HERALD-SUN/AP

Duke players celebrate with fans after beating Virginia. The 24th-ranked Blue Devils are back in the national polls — the first time they've earned rankings in back-to-back seasons since the 1950s.

## Duke maintains its focus

Blue Devils ignore ranking and prepare for another run at ACC title

By JOEY MCCREARY  
The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — After quarterback Anthony Boone found out No. 24 Duke was back in the national rankings, he called a players-only meeting.

The message was simple: Don't let it be a distraction.

It sure wasn't last year when the Blue Devils cracked the polls and climbed into first place in the Atlantic Coast Conference's Coastal Division.

Now they've done it again. And the way they see it, they're older and even better equipped to handle their success heading into this week's visit to Pittsburgh, where a win over the Panthers (4-2, 2-2) would push Duke (6-1, 2-1) closer to a repeat ACC title game berth.

Boone described the meeting Tuesday as "a pretty easy talk" because "we have a lot of experienced guys who know what it takes to win in November."

To those outside the program, earning national rankings might still seem like a new phenomenon for these Blue Devils.

Last year they showed up in the Top 25 for the first time since the 1994 season, rising to No. 20 during an eight-game winning streak that started after a wild loss to these Panthers.

This week's reappearance in the polls marks the first time



Duke (6-1)  
at Pittsburgh (4-4)  
AFN-Xtra  
5 p.m. Saturday CET  
1 a.m. Sunday JKT

that's happened for Duke in consecutive seasons since the mid-1950s.

"The two-year body of work has been exceptional," coach David Cutcliffe said. "We all know it can go away as fast as it comes sometimes, but it should make you hungry. ... Moving forward, it's meaningless unless we continue to play well."

Boone said he didn't even find out about the ranking until Monday when his sister told him about it. Cornerback DeVon Edwards says doing it last year was "OK for the first time."

"But now everybody's mindset is a lot different," he added. "We're not really proud of just being ranked. We want to keep on climbing the ladder."

As the only team in the Coastal with just one ACC loss, they've already climbed to the top of a muddy division.

Now the challenge is to stay there.

Maybe this game will help sort things out in a division in which five teams are behind Duke with two league losses.

The Blue Devils hold head-to-head tiebreakers with two of them — Virginia and Georgia Tech — and still must play Pitt and North Carolina. Duke's only league loss came against Miami.

"We kind of believe," center Matt Skura said, "if we just keep on winning, then we'll just keep our own spot at the top."

That will require a victory over Pitt — the only Coastal team Duke has yet to beat under seventh-year coach David Cutcliffe.

This matchup shapes up as the opposite of last year, when the Panthers won a 58-55 shootout in the second-highest-scoring game in ACC history. The teams combined for 1,130 total yards in that one — and Boone missed it with a broken collarbone.

This Duke team ranks second in the league, allowing 15 points per game. Until Georgia Tech hung 56 on the turnover-prone Panthers last week, Pitt hadn't given up more than 30 to anyone.

"That's the bottom line, not giving up points," Pitt coach Paul Chryst said. "You never quite know how the game is going to play out. You've just got to be prepared to be able to play whatever type of game it is."

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## COLLEGE FOOTBALL/SPORTS BRIEFS

## OSU not thrilled with playoff rank

By RUSTY MILLER  
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Urban Meyer took a look at the initial College Football Playoff rankings on Wednesday.

It took him a while to find his Ohio State team.

"Just real briefly. I just looked for the Buckeyes. I just looked down and saw where we were at," he said, a slight grin playing at the corners of his mouth. "That's it."

There was special emphasis on the word "down."

The Buckeyes (6-1, 3-0 Big Ten) ranked 13th in the coaches and The Associated Press media polls, and were 16th on the first weekly list of the top 25 teams determined by the playoff selection committee and released Tuesday.

The Buckeyes are trying to gain incentive off their ranking.

"We were real disappointed," linebacker Curtis Grant said. "We're hungry. You know, we did it to ourselves. So, all we've got to do is keep battling and keep working and at the end of the day try to work our way back to the top."

The Buckeyes aren't surprised that they have their work cut out for them to make it into the college sport's first playoff.

They already know they could not afford a second loss as they prepare for Saturday's game against Illinois (4-4, 1-3) and then a showdown the following week at No. 8 Michigan State.

Ohio State was No. 8 in the nation when it was soundly beaten at home by Virginia Tech, 35-21, on Sept. 6. The Hokies have since lost four times.

Jeff Long, the AD at Arkansas and also chairman of the 12-member playoff committee, was asked about Ohio State's low placement.

"It was not a good loss for them," he said of the Buckeyes' lone defeat. "But Ohio State has opportunities on their schedule to play up, as many of these teams do. We're still early in this process."

The Buckeyes are ranked third among Big Ten teams by the play-

off committee, behind No. 8 Michigan State and No. 15 Nebraska. Of course, the Buckeyes could move up with a win next week at Spartan Stadium. And there's a distinct possibility if they were to do that, they would most likely get a shot at Nebraska in the Big Ten title game.

What's perhaps more troubling for Ohio State fans was the Buckeyes listed 14th among one-loss teams. That's an indication of the low regard the committee has for the Buckeyes' schedule and conference.

Arguably, their biggest win might be last week's double-overtime victory over a Penn State team that has lost three in a row. The only other candidates would be routs of new Big Ten members Rutgers or Maryland, each of which is 5-3.

The Buckeyes were inconsistent against Penn State — a terrific defensive effort most of the way before allowing a tying drive at the end of regulation, great offense in building a 17-0 first-half lead but then an unproductive, conservative attack second half.

Star freshman quarterback J.T. Barrett sprained the medial-collateral ligament in his left knee in that game, but still ran for touchdowns in each overtime to secure the win.

Barrett said he intended to play this weekend.

"It would have to be something drastic that would happen between now and 8 o'clock (on Saturday)," he said. "I plan on playing."

Barrett said the Buckeyes aren't even thinking about the playoffs; they're only worried about playing well in the Big Ten during the stretch.

Speaking on the Big Ten coaches teleconference on Tuesday, Meyer said he looked at the playoff committee much as he did the Bowl Championship Series — just another imperfect way of determining who will play for the national championship.

"There is going to be a lot of controversy with this situation," he said. "It's not a foolproof way."



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

Ohio State coach Urban Meyer, right, stands next to wide receiver Corey Smith (84) as they sing the Ohio State alma mater after a 31-24 win in double overtime over Penn State last week.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Lakers forward Julius Randle, right, sits on a stretcher after he broke his leg in the season opener on Tuesday. Randle had surgery Wednesday and is expected to miss the entire season.

## Briefly

## Randle likely out for season

From wire reports

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles Lakers rookie forward Julius Randle is expected to miss the rest of the season after undergoing surgery on his broken right leg.

The seventh overall pick out of Kentucky broke his leg in the fourth quarter of his NBA debut in Los Angeles' season-opening loss to the Houston Rockets on Tuesday night. Randle was strapped to a wheeled stretcher and taken off the Staples Center court after colliding with two Rockets and landing awkwardly with 6:46 to play.

Randle's surgery was performed by Dr. Donald Wiss at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He is expected to make a full recovery, but the Lakers anticipate he won't play this season.

"I think we're a little shocked by it, disappointed, hurt, all those things are probably going through all our minds," Lakers coach Byron Scott said before the tip-off against the Suns. "I know I didn't get a lot of sleep just thinking about the young fella."

The 19-year-old power forward was the SEC's top freshman while helping Kentucky to reach the NCAA championship game last season. He was thrilled to be drafted by his favorite childhood team to play alongside Kobe Bryant, one of his idols.

Bryant consoled Randle on the court and after the game in the Lakers' locker room. Bryant made his own return Tuesday after missing the 2013 playoffs and all but six games last season with two major injuries.

"Even for myself, being a veteran, seeing someone going through something like this is tough," Bryant said. "But that's

what we're here for. We're here to be his teammates and help him through it, take it day by day. ... He was progressing just fine. He was improving leaps and bounds."

In other NBA news:

■ J.J. Barea is the latest to join the championship reunion for the Dallas Mavericks. The diminutive guard who played a key role in Dallas' 2011 NBA Finals victory over Miami signed with the Mavericks on Wednesday.

Barea is back with Dirk Nowitzki and Tyson Chandler, the center whose leadership played a big part in the franchise's only championship.

## Oklahoma RB reaches plea in assault case

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma running back Joe Mixon has accepted one year of probation after being charged with punching a young woman at a restaurant in July.

Mixon's attorney, Kevin Finlay, said Thursday that Mixon entered an Alford plea in which he acknowledged there was likely enough evidence to convict him of misdemeanor assault while still asserting his innocence.

According to court documents, Mixon has agreed to 100 hours of community service, cognitive behavior counseling and payment of court costs.

Mixon, a freshman, was one of the nation's top recruits and was expected to contend for a starting job. He is serving a one-year suspension and has not been allowed to participate in team activities since the incident.

The woman suffered a fractured jaw, broken cheek bone, fractured sinus and "fractured

orbit" near her left eye.

In other college football news:

■ Florida State running back Karlos Williams is subject to a Title IX investigation by the university for his role in a possible domestic battery case.

Florida State would not confirm if it would investigate Williams case involving Williams. It said it continues despite the woman involved filing an affidavit asking police to end the investigation.

The Tallahassee Police Department confirmed it is investigating an alleged domestic battery case involving Williams. It said it continues despite the woman involved filing an affidavit asking police to end the investigation.

■ Utah lost big-play wide receiver Dres Anderson to a season-ending knee injury, a significant blow for an offense that has sputtered at times. Anderson led No. 18 Utah with 355 yards receiving and four touchdowns.

## NHL suspends Rangers' Moore for five games

NEW YORK — The NHL suspended New York Rangers defenseman John Moore on Wednesday for five games without pay for an illegal hit to the head of Minnesota Wild forward Erik Haula.

The decision was handed out by the league's Department of Player Safety following an in-person hearing with Moore, who is considered a repeat offender.

Moore was assessed a match penalty 7:12 into the second period of Monday night's game when he delivered a shoulder to Haula's head in the New York zone after Haula shot the puck.

Moore will begin serving the suspension Saturday when the Rangers host the Winnipeg Jets, and he will be eligible to return on Nov. 11 at Pittsburgh.

## NFL



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

Pittsburgh wide receiver Antonio Brown celebrates making a first-down catch during the fourth quarter last weekend's game against Indianapolis in Pittsburgh. The Steelers won 51-34 and Brown had 10 receptions for 133 yards and two touchdowns.

# Difficult to overlook

## Steelers' Brown gets attention for more than TD celebrations

By WILL GRAVES  
The Associated Press

**A**ntonio Brown's brilliance is sometimes overshadowed by everything else that comes with it.

The elaborate and occasionally illegal touchdown celebrations. The rare and highly meme-friendly karate kick to an opposing punter's face. The intermittent Twitter post that called designed solely to extend a "record" that while impressive isn't actually recognized by the NFL.

Strip it all away, however, and there's this: The undersized but relentless Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver is elbowing his way into the conversation among the best at his position and maybe one of the most valuable players in the game.

Heading into Sunday night's game against Baltimore, the two-time Pro Bowler is on his way to the greatest season by a receiver in team history. Brown leads the NFL with 60 receptions and his 852 yards receiving rank sec-

ond to good friend and former pee-wee football teammate T.Y. Hilton of the Indianapolis Colts. All this despite facing frequent double teams as opponents try to neutralize Brown in an often ill-fated attempt to force Pittsburgh quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to look elsewhere with the ball.

"When you step into a stadium he's a known issue but still he performs," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "We could talk about some of the things about guys like (Houston Texans defensive end) JJ Watt. We knew what he was capable of when we were getting ready to play him, but it still doesn't stop the storm from coming."

The storm reached a frenzy last Sunday against Indianapolis, when Brown caught a season-high 10 passes for 133 yards and two scores in a 51-34 victory over the Colts.

Yet Brown toils in relative obscurity. At 5-foot-10 he's not a physical marvel like Calvin Johnson or Dez Bryant. His toothy smile hardly mirrors Steve Smith's visceral tenaciousness. He plays for a franchise known for winning and rugged play, in that order, even as the Steelers have the fourth-best passing offense.

# Brady's focus on Broncos defense

By HOWARD ULMAN  
The Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Fans get another chance to gauge the relative greatness of Tom Brady and Peyton Manning when the quarterbacks meet for the 16th time.

Brady will be analyzing something more important.

The New England Patriots star will have his eyes on an improved Denver Broncos defense that could test his limited skills at escaping the pass rush on Sunday.

The Broncos (6-1) are the only team with two players having at least seven sacks — linebacker Von Miller with nine and defensive end DeMarcus Ware with seven.

"They just tee off on the quarterback. They've got every move. They've got the speed, speed-to-power," Brady said Wednesday. "They've got the spin moves. They run the games. It's a big challenge for our offensive line."

It would have been a much bigger challenge earlier in the season when the line was in flux as coach Bill Belichick sought the right combination to clear space for runners and protect Brady.

The Patriots (6-2) were 2-2 in the first four games and Brady was sacked nine times. In the last four, they're 4-0 and Brady has been sacked just four times. The current front line of left tackle Nate Solder, left guard Dan Connolly, rookie center Bryan Stork, right guard Ryan Wendell and right tackle Sebastian Vollmer has jelled.

"We've had some growing pains that we're all trying to get used to earlier," Brady said. "Offensive lines, typically, the longer they play together the better they get because they do develop a lot of trust in the guy next to them. The offensive line really is a metaphor for an offense and a team. Everyone has to complement each other."

Brady is 10-5 against Manning, including the postseason. But the last time they faced each other, Manning and the Broncos were better. He completed 32 of 43 passes for 400 yards and two touchdowns in a 26-16 win in last season's AFC championship game.

The Broncos have allowed the fourth fewest yards per game in the NFL and the fewest yards rushing. In the last four games, opponents have averaged just 258.8 yards and 47.8 yards rushing.

In his last four games, Brady has been spectacular, passing for 1,268 with 14 touchdowns and no interceptions.

"I feel like I'm the same every week," he said. "Some weeks it goes better than others, but I feel like my approach is always the same. Statistics may not be the same, but I try to bring the same level of intensity and energy, and I think I've always tried to be really consistent."



Brady

### By the numbers

# 14.2

Average yards per catch for Pittsburgh receiver Antonio Brown this season.

# 7

Number of touchdowns Brown has scored this season through 8 games.

# 110

Most receptions Brown has had in a single season, setting the mark in 2013.

SOURCE: NFL.com

# NHL/NBA

## NHL roundup

# Two late goals lift Detroit

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Justin Abdelkader and the Detroit Red Wings came out with a sense of urgency in the third period against the Washington Capitals.

Abdelkader scored twice in the final 20 minutes to help the Red Wings rally for a 4-2 victory Wednesday night.

Abdelkader broke a 2-2 tie when he took a drop pass from Pavel Datsyuk and beat Braden Holtby from the left circle at 10:34 for his fifth goal of the season. Detroit tied at 4:04 when Abdelkader scored off a Washington turnover he caused in the slot.

"I kind of jumped in and came in from up high there and got a good stick on the puck," Abdelkader said of the tying goal. "The puck bounced loose there and I found a way to put it in the net."

Datsyuk added a power-play goal in the final minute. Gustav Nyquist also scored — off an assist from Abdelkader — and Henrik Zetterberg had two assists. Henrik Howard made 25 saves.

"We showed some good character there, falling behind in the second and coming out and playing extremely well in the third," Howard said.

Troy Brouwer and Evgeny Kuznetsov scored for Washington, which has lost three of four.

"I thought we were good up until midway through the second period, maybe even to the end of the second period, but then we started taking a few chances," Brouwer said. "Couple of needless turnovers."

Alex Ovechkin failed to score a point for the fifth straight game, the longest drought of his career.

Holtby stopped 18 shots and had an assist.

Datsyuk's goal ended a streak of 23 Detroit power plays without a goal.

The top line of Abdelkader, Zetterberg and Nyquist has accounted for 13 of the team's 22 goals this season.

The Red Wings opened the scoring midway through the second period following a Washington turnover. Abdelkader got the loose puck and fed Nyquist, who was alone in front of the net. Holtby made a pad save, but Nyquist banged in his own rebound for his fifth goal of the season.

**Predators 4, Oilers 1:** Craig Smith scored twice as visiting Nashville rebounded from its first regulation loss of the season with a victory over Edmonton.

Shea Weber and Taylor Beck also scored and Pekka Rinne made 26 saves to help Nashville improve to 6-1-2 in the first game of a six-game trip.

Taylor Hall scored for Edmonton. The Oilers had won four straight after opening 0-4-1.

## NHL scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	10	8	2	0	16	27	26
Tampa Bay	10	6	3	1	13	34	26
Detroit	9	5	2	2	12	22	19
Ottawa	8	5	2	1	11	22	17
Boston	11	5	6	0	10	29	28
Toronto	9	4	4	1	9	25	25
Florida	7	2	2	3	7	10	16
Buffalo	4	2	2	0	4	11	33

buffalo	10	2	8	0	4	11	33
Metropolitan Division							
N.Y. Islanders	9	6	3	0	12	35	31
Pittsburgh	8	5	2	1	11	33	22
N.Y. Rangers	9	5	4	0	10	27	30
Philadelphia	9	4	3	2	10	29	32
New Jersey	9	4	3	2	10	28	33
Washington	9	4	3	2	10	27	23
Columbus	9	4	5	0	8	25	30
Carolina	8	0	6	2	2	15	33

### Western Conference

	Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	9	6	1	2	14	23	17
Chicago	9	5	3	1	11	22	15
Dallas	9	4	2	3	11	32	33
Minnesota	8	5	3	0	10	27	14
St. Louis	8	4	3	1	9	20	18
Winnipeg	9	4	5	0	8	19	24
Colorado	10	4	4	2	6	22	32

Pacific Division							
Anaheim	10	8	2	0	16	31	19
Los Angeles	9	6	2	1	14	24	15
San Jose	11	6	4	1	13	35	30
Vancouver	9	6	3	0	12	31	27
Calgary	11	5	4	2	12	27	24
Edmonton	10	4	5	1	9	27	36
Arizona	8	3	4	1	7	21	32

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

### Wednesday's games

Detroit 4, Washington 2  
Nashville 4, Edmonton 1

### Thursday's games

Boston at Buffalo  
Winnipeg at New Jersey  
Los Angeles at Pittsburgh  
Chicago at Ottawa  
Minnesota at Tampa Bay  
Arizona at Florida  
Philadelphia at St. Louis  
San Jose at Minnesota

### Friday's games

N.Y. Islanders at Colorado  
Montreal at Vancouver  
Toronto at Columbus  
Los Angeles at Detroit  
Edmonton at Dallas

### Saturday's games

Ottawa at Boston  
Chicago at Toronto  
Washington at Tampa Bay  
Philadelphia at Florida  
Columbus at New Jersey  
Winnipeg at N.Y. Rangers  
Buffalo at Pittsburgh  
Carolina at St. Louis  
Colorado at St. Louis  
Dallas at Minnesota  
Vancouver at Edmonton  
N.Y. Islanders at San Jose

### Wednesday

### Red Wings 4, Capitals 2

Detroit 0 1 3-4  
Washington 0 0 0-2  
Second Period—1, Detroit, Nyquist 5 (Abdelkader, Quincey); 8:56, 2, Washington, Kuznetsov 1 (Ward, Holtby); 13:19 (p), 3, Washington, Brouwer 2 (Carlson, Burakovsky); 19:02.

Third Period—4, Detroit, Abdelkader 4 (Zetterberg, Nyquist); 5:22, 5, Detroit, Zetterberg 1 (10:34); 6, Detroit, Datsyuk 2 (Zetterberg, Smith); 19:06 (p).

Shots—Detroit, 26; Capitals, 3; 10-9-22.

Goalies—Detroit, Howard 4-1-2 (27 shots-26 saves); Washington, Scrivens 3-2-1 (22-18).

A—16,839 (18,506). T—2:19.

### Predators 4, Oilers 1

Nashville 0 0 2-1  
Edmonton 0 2 0-1  
Second Period—1, Nashville, Smith 2 (Jost, O'Roy); 6:22, 2, Nashville, Beck 1 (Wilson, Ekholm); 7:49.

Third Period—Nashville, Weber 4 (Ribeiro), 24:4, Edmonton, Hall 6 (Nugent-Hopkins, Eberle); 8:54, 5, Nashville, Smith 3 (Gullien, Smith); 12:24.

Shots on goal—Nashville 11-15-35; Edmonton 15-15-37.

Power-play opportunities—Nashville 0 of 1; Edmonton 0 of 2.

Goalies—Nashville, Rinne 6-1-1 (27 shots-26 saves); Edmonton, Scrivens 4-0 (35-31).

A—16,839 (16,839). T—2:24.

### Scoring leaders

Through Oct. 29				
Player	GP	G	A	Pts
Tyler Seguin, Dal	7	7	0	14
Sidney Crosby, Pit	8	7	7	14
Brayden McNabb, N.Y.	9	6	6	12
Shea Weber, Phi	9	2	11	13
Cory Perry, Ann	10	9	3	12
Patrick Nelson, N.Y.	9	6	6	12
Jeff Carter, LA	9	5	7	12
John Tavares, Cts	11	4	7	12
John Tavares, N.J.	9	4	8	12
Brian Burns, SJ	11	4	7	12
Patrick Marleau, SV	11	4	8	12
Ryan Getzlaf, Anh	9	3	9	12
Jason Spezza, Dal	9	3	9	12
Tyler Johnson, San	10	1	11	12
10 tied with 11 pts.				



Chicago's Derrick Rose, right, looks to pass away from New York's Samuel Dalembert, center, and Pablo Prigioni during the first half of Wednesday's game in New York. Rose had 13 points.

## NBA roundup

# Rose returns, Bulls roll

## Gasol's 21 points helps Chicago cruise by New York

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Derrick Rose spent way too much time sitting and watching the last two seasons.

Yet he wasn't bummed at all about playing just 7 minutes of the second half in his long-awaited return.

"It was real fun being on the bench," he said, "being able to laugh, talk basketball to your teammates whenever they come back to the sideline."

Not to mention check out a team he says can be "as scary as Detroit."

Pau Gasol had 21 points and 11 rebounds in his Chicago debut. Rose scored 13 points and the Bulls spoiled Derek Fisher's first game as an NBA coach by beating the New York Knicks 104-80 on Wednesday night.

Reserve Taj Gibson finished with 22 points to lead the Bulls, who with a wealth of frontcourt depth didn't even need a big night from Rose. The former MVP took only seven shots and had five assists in 21 minutes in a game Chicago led by as much as 35.

"I think it's a lot of pressure off his shoulders because we have, I think, a variety of weapons, so he doesn't have that pressure on himself to be able to score and force things," Gasol said.

Carmelo Anthony had 16 points for the Knicks, who won't have it any easier in the second half of their season-opening, back-to-back. They visit the Cavaliers, the other Eastern Conference favorite, on Thursday in the first game since LeBron James returned to Cleveland.

"Embarrassed? No. I am not embarrassed," Anthony said. "We will get better. I believe that. I know that and we have another shot at it (Thursday) night."

The Knicks, running the triangle offense that Fisher played in under Knicks president Phil Jackson, shot 36.5 percent. They were missing starting point guard Jose Calderon, who was a late scratch because of a strained right calf. Shane Larkin made his first career start.

**Heat 107, Wizards 95:** Chris Bosh had 26 points

and 15 rebounds and Norris Cole scored a career-high 23 points after winning the starting point-guard job as host Miami beat Washington to open the post-LeBron James era.

**Celtics 121, Nets 105:** Rajon Rondo returned from a broken hand and had 13 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds in the season opener to help host Boston beat Brooklyn.

**Suns 119, Lakers 99:** Isaiah Thomas scored 23 points in his debut with his new team and Marcus Morris matched his career high with five three-pointers as host Phoenix dominated its season opener against Los Angeles despite Kobe Bryant's 31 points.

**Warriors 95, Kings 77:** Stephen Curry had 24 points and 10 rebounds, and Klay Thompson scored 19 points as an undrafted Golden State man Steve Kerr a winner in his coaching debut, rolling past host Sacramento.

**Hornets 108, Bucks 106 (OT):** Kemba Walker made a 21-footer from the top of the key with 5 seconds left in overtime to lift host Charlotte past Milwaukee, providing a winning conclusion for fans celebrating the return of the team's new name after a 12-year absence.

**Grizzlies 105, Timberwolves 101:** Marc Gasol scored a career-high 32 points as host Memphis beat Minnesota for the franchise's first victory in a season opener since 2000.

**Rockets 104, Jazz 93:** Dwight Howard had 22 points and 10 rebounds as visiting Houston beat Utah to spoil Quin Snyder's NBA coaching debut.

**Pacers 103, 76ers 91:** Roy Hibbert had 22 points, eight rebounds and seven blocks to lead short-handed Indiana past visiting Philadelphia.

**Raptors 109, Hawks 102:** DeMar DeRozan had 15 points and a career-high 11 rebounds, and Kyle Lowry added 11 points in host Toronto's victory over Atlanta.

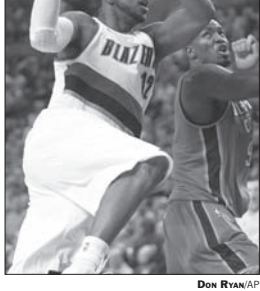
**Nuggets 89, Pistons 79:** Kenneth Faried scored 22 points and had 17 rebounds as host Denver beat Detroit and handed Stan Van Gundy in his first game as coach.



# NBA

# Big fourth lifts Blazers past Thunder

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
The Associated Press



Don Ryan/AP

Trail Blazers forward LaMarcus Aldridge drives past Thunder center Serge Ibaka on Wednesday. Aldridge scored 27 points.

PORTLAND, Ore. — LaMarcus Aldridge's first basket of this season was a bit of a surprise, even to him.

Aldridge hit a three-point and Portland's All-Star forward went on to score 27 points in a 106-89 season-opening victory over the injury-depleted Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday night.

Aldridge, who has been working on his long-range shot, said Russell Westbrook's defense on the play gave him no choice but to shoot.

"I don't think anyone was thinking my first shot would be a long three, so it was pretty cool," he said.

The Thunder only suited up nine players. Most notably they were without reigning NBA MVP Kevin Durant, who had surgery for a fractured bone in his right foot this month and will likely be sidelined until December.

Westbrook picked up the slack, with 38 points, including 26 in the first half.

After trailing for much of the game, Port-

land pulled to an 89-80 lead with 7 minutes left on Damian Lillard's three-pointer. Nicolas Batum passed to Aldridge for the alley-oop dunk to put the Blazers up 93-83 and the Thunder could not catch up.

"It felt great," Aldridge said. "I've been waiting for this game for a while."

Portland outscored the Thunder 31-12 in the fourth quarter. All five Blazers starters were in double figures.

With 14 straight home-openings victories, the Blazers matched the Boston Celtics' record set from 1979-92.

Also sitting out the opener for the Thunder were guard Reggie Jackson, forward Grant Jerrett, guard Jeremy Lamb, forward Mitch McGary and guard Anthony Morrow.

Durant averaged 32 points last season when the Thunder went to the Western Conference finals, carrying the team when Westbrook was nursing a knee injury. The roles are reversed to start this season.

Though we played hard. That's the only thing I can say from Day 1. Just compete, play hard and play for each other. They did that tonight but we made too many

mistakes at the end of the game," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said.

Blazers' season began with the exact same roster as last season, when they won 54 games and advanced to the second round of the playoffs.

Despite being short-handed, Oklahoma City took a 13-5 lead on Westbrook's seven-point outburst.

The Blazers pulled in from 35-34 in the second quarter on a 12-footer from Chris Kaman, picked up by the Blazers as a free agent in the offseason.

Westbrook hit five straight free throws to give the Thunder back the lead, and he dunked to close out the half and make it 54-49 for Oklahoma City after the break.

Westbrook pushed the lead to 71-65 midway through the third quarter with a layup and the free throw. But the Blazers never let the game get away from them and trailed just 77-75 going into the final quarter.

We put ourselves in position to win the game. We don't take moral victories around here and never will," Westbrook said.

## Scoreboard

Eastern Conference									
Atlantic Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	1	0	1.000	—		Boston	1	0	1.000
Toronto	1	0	1.000	—		Toronto	1	0	1.000
New York	1	0	1.000	—		New York	1	0	1.000
Philadelphia	1	0	1.000	—		Philadelphia	1	0	1.000
Brooklyn	1	0	1.000	—		Brooklyn	1	0	1.000
Southeast Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	1	0	1.000	—		Miami	1	0	1.000
Charlotte	1	0	1.000	—		Charlotte	1	0	1.000
Orlando	1	0	1.000	—		Orlando	1	0	1.000
Atlanta	1	0	1.000	—		Atlanta	1	0	1.000
New Orleans	1	0	1.000	—		New Orleans	1	0	1.000
Washington	1	0	1.000	—		Washington	1	0	1.000
Central Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	1	0	1.000	—		Chicago	1	0	1.000
Indiana	1	0	1.000	—		Indiana	1	0	1.000
Cleveland	1	0	1.000	—		Cleveland	1	0	1.000
New Orleans	1	0	1.000	—		New Orleans	1	0	1.000
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000	—		Milwaukee	1	0	1.000
Western Conference									
Southwest Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	1	0	1.000	—		Houston	1	0	1.000
San Antonio	1	0	1.000	—		San Antonio	1	0	1.000
Mempis	1	0	1.000	—		Mempis	1	0	1.000
New Orleans	1	0	1.000	—		New Orleans	1	0	1.000
Dallas	1	0	1.000	—		Dallas	1	0	1.000
Northwest Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	1	0	1.000	—		Portland	1	0	1.000
Denver	1	0	1.000	—		Denver	1	0	1.000
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	—		Minnesota	1	0	1.000
Utah	1	0	1.000	—		Utah	1	0	1.000
Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000	—		Oklahoma City	1	0	1.000
Pacific Division									
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	1	0	1.000	—		Golden State	1	0	1.000
L.A. Clippers	1	0	1.000	—		L.A. Clippers	1	0	1.000
Sacramento	1	0	1.000	—		Sacramento	1	0	1.000
L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000	—		L.A. Lakers	1	0	1.000
Tuesday's games									
New Orleans 101, Orlando 84						New Orleans 101, Orlando 84			
San Antonio 101, Dallas 100						San Antonio 101, Dallas 100			
Golden State 95, Sacramento 77						Golden State 95, Sacramento 77			
Portland 106, Oklahoma City 89						Portland 106, Oklahoma City 89			
Thursday's games									
Washington at Orlando						Washington at Orlando			
Detroit at Minnesota						Detroit at Minnesota			
San Antonio at Phoenix						San Antonio at Phoenix			
Atlanta at Dallas						Atlanta at Dallas			
Friday's games									
Mempis at Indiana						Mempis at Indiana			
Cleveland at Chicago						Cleveland at Chicago			
Philadelphia at Milwaukee						Philadelphia at Milwaukee			
Atlanta at Phoenix						Atlanta at Phoenix			
Portland at Sacramento						Portland at Sacramento			
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers						L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers			
Saturday's games									
Dallas at New Orleans						Dallas at New Orleans			
Portland at Philadelphia						Portland at Philadelphia			
Milwaukee at Washington						Milwaukee at Washington			
Toronto at Orlando						Toronto at Orlando			
Memphis at Charlotte						Memphis at Charlotte			
Indiana at Atlanta						Indiana at Atlanta			
Detroit at Denver						Detroit at Denver			
Denver at Oklahoma City						Denver at Oklahoma City			
Boston at Utah						Boston at Utah			
Chicago at Minnesota						Chicago at Minnesota			
Phoenix at Houston						Phoenix at Houston			
L.A. Lakers at Golden State						L.A. Lakers at Golden State			

Portland Trail Blazers forward LaMarcus Aldridge drives past Thunder center Serge Ibaka on Wednesday. Aldridge scored 27 points.

## WORLD SERIES

# Bumgarner named World Series MVP

## Giants' ace delivers on grandest stage

By BEN WALKER  
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Madison Bumgarner was limbering up at Kauffman Stadium this week, getting loose with his San Francisco teammates near the dugout, when Tim Hudson and Michael Morse sneaked up from behind and ruffled the pitcher's long, scraggly locks.

**'You know what? I can't lie to you anymore. I'm a little tired now.'**

**Madison Bumgarner**  
Giants pitcher and World Series MVP, after pitching five scoreless innings of relief on Wednesday

That was way too hairy for Bumgarner. He quickly spun and playfully sparred with the mischief makers.

They were about the only ones who could touch Bumgarner in this World Series.

"Yeah, it was hopeless," Kansas City manager Ned Yost acknowledged.

The 25-year-old Bumgarner capped off a most splendid October and earned MVP honors Wednesday night, pitching five scoreless innings of

relief in Game 7 as the Giants held off the Kansas City Royals 3-2.

Moments after he retired Salvador Perez on a foul pop with a runner on third base for the final out, Bumgarner insisted he

wasn't worn down. About a half-hour later, he felt a bit differently.

"You know what? I can't lie to you anymore," he said. "I'm a little tired now."

Bumgarner earned a sensational save to go along with two sparkling wins as a starter in the Series. That on top of being MVP of the NL Championship Series and pitching a record 52½ innings in this postseason.

"He's such a humble guy, and we rode him pretty good," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said.

"It's historic what this kid has done," he said. "Really, truly amazing."

After winning the opener with seven impressive innings, Bumgarner threw a shut-out in Game 5. And when the Royals forced a Game 7, there was little doubt that the guy called MadBum would be called on to pitch again on two days' rest.

He gave up two hits, retired 14 in a row, and got 15 outs — that matched how many outs opposing starters Tim Hudson and Jeremy Guthrie combined to get.

Bumgarner boosted his World Series stats to numbers never seen before: 4-0 with a save and a 0.25 ERA, along with three championship rings. In 36 innings, he's allowed just one run and 14 hits, striking out 31 and walking five.

Bumgarner wound up slinging 68 pitches, and finished with 270 innings this season. He went 4-1 with a 1.03 ERA in the postseason.

"We probably would have won if they didn't have him," Royals outfielder Lorenzo Cain said. "But they do have him."



CHARLIE NEUBERG/ALP

**San Francisco Giants pitcher Madison Bumgarner holds the World Series trophy after Game 7 of the World Series in Kansas City, Mo. Bumgarner was named MVP as he helped lead the Giants past the Kansas City Royals 3-2 to win the series.**

# Magic runs out on Royals

By DAVE SKRETTA  
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Missouri. — The roars from the field had died away. Kauffman Stadium had fallen silent for the first time all night. In the Royals' clubhouse, Alex Gordon had finally peeled off his dirt-stained jersey.

He had just watched the San Francisco Giants celebrate their third World Series title in five years, capped by a 3-2 victory in Game 7 on Wednesday night. But all he could think about was whether he could have scored the tying run with two outs in the ninth inning.

"It was a good hold," Gordon said, eventually. "Close, but just short."

Summing up the Royals' season along with the season finale.

Still, the season will be remembered for much more than how close the Royals came to forcing extra innings one more time. It will be remembered for their 12-inning wild-card win over Oakland, and sweeps of the Angels and Orioles in their first playoff appearance since 1985.

It will be remembered for Yorlano Ventura's inspired pitching



CHARLIE NEUBERG/ALP

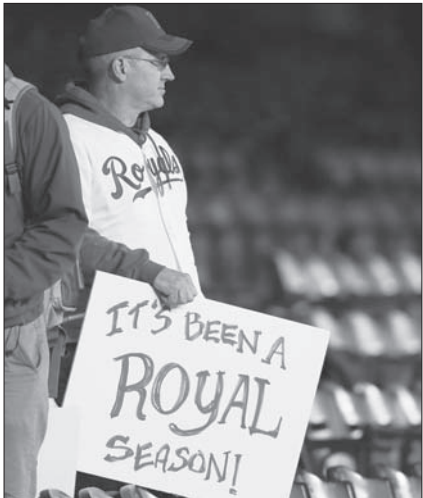
**Kansas City's Alex Gordon walks off the field as San Francisco Giants players celebrate after Game 7 of the World Series.**

performance in Game 6. And the gutsy performances by the brilliant bullpen. It will be remembered for James Shields and Wade Davis, and the way they taught a losing clubhouse how to win.

It will be remembered for waking a baseball-starved city from its slumber.

"The character we had in this clubhouse is what I'll remember the most," said Shields, who now becomes a free agent and will likely pitch elsewhere for next season.

"We battled," first baseman Eric Hosmer said. "I think you saw how much heart we have."



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

**A Kansas City Royals fan looks to the field after Game 7 of the World Series against the San Francisco Giants on Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. The Giants won 3-2 to win the series.**

## WORLD SERIES

## Scoreboard

## World Series

(Best-of-seven)

San Francisco 4, Kansas City 3  
 San Francisco 7, Kansas City 1  
 Kansas City 7, San Francisco 2  
 Kansas City 3, San Francisco 2  
 San Francisco 11, Kansas City 4  
 San Francisco 5, Kansas City 0  
 Kansas City 10, San Francisco 0  
**Wednesday:** San Francisco 3, Kansas City 2

## Wednesday

## Giants 3, Royals 2

San Francisco	AB	R	H	BB	SO	Avg.
G.Blanco cf	4	0	0	0	0	.143
Panik 2b	4	0	0	0	3	.222
Poser c	4	0	0	0	0	.154
Sandoval 3b	3	2	3	0	0	.429
Seane r	2	0	0	0	0	.444
Belt 1b	4	0	2	0	0	.308
Morse dh	3	0	0	1	0	.250
B.Crawford ss	3	0	0	1	0	.304
J.Perez lf	3	0	0	0	2	.250
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	
Kansas City	AB	R	H	BB	SO	Avg.
A.Escobar ss	3	0	0	0	1	.110
Aoki rf	3	0	0	0	1	.071
L.Cain cf	3	0	1	0	1	.308
Hosmer 1b	4	0	0	0	2	.250
B.Butterer dh	4	1	1	0	0	.333
A.Gordon lf	3	1	2	1	0	.185
S.Perez c	3	0	0	0	0	.333
Moustakas 3b	3	0	0	0	0	.217
Infante 2b	2	0	1	0	1	.318
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	

San Francisco 020 100 000 — 3 8 1  
 Kansas City 020 000 000 — 2 6 0  
**LOB**—San Francisco 5, Kansas City 5.  
**2B**—Sandoval (3), A.Gordon (3).  
**RBI**—Morse 2 (4), B.Crawford (4), A.Gordon (2), Infante (5).

**S**—A.Escobar. **SB**—Morse, B.Crawford, Infante.

**Runners left in scoring position**—San Francisco 2 (Perez, Pence); Kansas City 3 (Aoki, L.Cain, S.Perez).  
**RISP**—San Francisco 2-for-6; Kansas City 0-for-5.

**Runners moved up**—Belt, Moustakas.  
**GDP**—Pence, Hosmer, S.Perez.  
**DP**—San Francisco 2 (Panik, B.Crawford, Belt), Panik, B.Crawford, Belt; Kansas City 1 (A.Escobar, Infante, Hosmer).

**San Francisco IP H R ERBSO NP ERA**  
 T.Hudson 1.0 2 1 0 0 0 32 0.00  
 Affeldt 1.0 2 1 0 0 0 32 0.00  
 Bumgarner 5.1 4 5 2 0 0 0 4.68 0.43  
**Kansas City IP H R ERBSO NP ERA**  
 Guthrie L 1-1 3 4 3 3 0 0 3.49 5.40  
 K.Herrera 2.0 3 0 0 0 4 35 2.70  
 W.Davis 2 1 0 0 0 3 25 0.00  
 G.Holland 0 0 0 0 2 13 0.00  
**Inherited runners scored**—Affeldt 2-0, K.Herrera 2-1.

**HBP**—by T.Hudson (S.Perez), by Affeldt (A.Gordon), by Guthrie (Sandoval).

**WP**—Affeldt.

**T**—3:10, A=40,353 (37,903).

## Calendar

**November TSA**—Deadline for teams to make qualifying offers to their eligible former players who will become free agents fifth day after World Series.

**November TBA**—Deadline for free agents to accept qualifying offers, 12th day after World Series.

**Nov. 10-12**—General managers' meetings, Phoenix.

**Nov. 12-13**—Owners' meetings, Kansas City, Mo.

**Dec. 2**—Last day for teams to offer 2015 contracts to unsigned players.

**Dec. 8-11**—Winter meetings, San Diego.

**Dec. 8**—Hall of Fame golden era (1947-72) vote announced, San Diego.



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

San Francisco pitcher Tim Hudson celebrates the Giants' 3-2 win on Wednesday in the World Series. Hudson finally won his first title in his 16th major league season.

## San Francisco treat

## Giants beat Royals for 3rd title in five years

By JANIE McCauley

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Bruce Bochy is crazy superstitious. It's a little-known fact about the unflappable San Francisco Giants manager.

More mention of anything about a dynasty during the World Series made him uncomfortable. He felt equally uneasy when his name got linked to the best skippers of all time — those Hall of Famers he well could join someday.

Bochy doesn't have to worry about a jinx now. After winning its third championship in five seasons, the new label for his team looks as if it will stick.

"Dynasty" blared the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle on Thursday.

The Giants closed it out with a 3-2 win in Game 7 at Kansas City on Wednesday night, sealed by Series MVP Madison Bumgarner's five shutout innings as a reliever this time.

"A lot has to go right. First off, it starts with the talent," Bochy said. "I mean, you need that, which we have. Then you have to deal with a lot of things maybe during the season. Every manager says, 'Hey, we're fine, we have a good chance to get there if we stay healthy.' But that doesn't always happen."

In a remarkable every-other-year pattern, San Francisco somehow finds its best form in even years. With new faces and old ones, with castoffs and misfits and some key midseason acquisitions.

Few clubs have captured three championships in a five-year span. The last National League team to do it was the St. Louis Cardinals with Stan Musial from 1942-46, so the Giants are the first of the free-agency era.

The Oakland Athletics won three straight crowns in the early 1970s, and the New York Yankees captured four in five years from 1996-2000.

Still, San Francisco was never considered a favorite or the best team in the regular season any of these times. Twice in this stretch, the Giants missed the playoffs altogether.

After a runner-up finish in the NL West to the Dodgers at 88-74, they took the wild-card route this time.

On Wednesday night, Tim Hudson became a champion after a 16-year wait and Michael Morse got there following 10 major league seasons.

"It's the greatest group of guys



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

San Francisco's Brandon Crawford celebrates after the Giants won Game 7 of the World Series against the Kansas City Royals on Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo.



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

San Francisco's Michael Morse celebrates Wednesday's Game 7 World Series victory. The Giants joined an exclusive club with their third championship in five seasons, and became the first National League club to achieve the feat since the St. Louis Cardinals did it from 1942-46.

I ever played with," Morse said. "It's a group of guys who believe in each other and the outcome was a World Series victory."

A unique element for Bochy's latest winning roster is the talented crop of homegrown players who made it happen.

There are the big names — Bumgarner, Buster Posey, Pablo

Sandoval. And the emerging ones — Brandon Belt, Brandon Crawford, Joe Panik.

"You look at most of our team — like Joe, me, Buster, Pablo, Belt, Bum. It's loaded with a lot of good players and a lot of players who are pretty similar in kind of their approach to the game and they're pretty even-keel," said Crawford,

the shortstop. "Nothing's really too big for us."

Eight players have been on all three winning World Series teams: Bumgarner, slugger third baseman Sandoval, Posey and relievers Jeremy Affeldt, Javier Lopez, Santiago Casilla, Sergio Romo and Tim Lincecum. Matt Cain, too, but he was hurt this year.

General manager Brian Sabean, longest-tenured in baseball, can't put a finger on why the mix keeps working. He is proud of the core of players who were drafted and came through the system and played such a huge part this time.

"It's a testament to player development and scouting. That's what we all hope for, that you can plug your holes from within and build your team from within," Sabean said. "That's a surefire way to kind of keep things moving forward. It prevents you from having to go into the market, whether it's free agency or more so the trade market."

The Giants survived skids in June and September before winning the wild-card game at Pittsburgh. They then beat Washington in the Division Series and St. Louis in the NL Championship series.

For the Giants, it's about every player doing his part and serving a role, because, as Sabean puts it, "We don't have a star system here."

"It's everybody's got to pull on the same chain and everybody's got to be ready to play," he said. "They understand the culture."

Dynasty or not, Affeldt has solved a potential problem at home.

The lefty reliever and Game 7 winner has three young sons — and, now, three championships.

"My three boys now all get to have rings on their finger," he said. "And I'm very happy about that."



# SPORTS



## Unstoppable force?

Pittsburgh WR Brown on pace for greatest season in franchise history | **NFL, Page 27**

### WORLD SERIES

San Francisco Giants manager Bruce Bochy celebrates after winning Game 7 of the World Series against the Kansas City Royals on Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. The Giants won 3-2 to win the series.

DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

A large photograph of San Francisco Giants manager Bruce Bochy celebrating with the World Series trophy. He is wearing a "CHAMPIONS" cap and a dark jacket, with his mouth open in a shout. The trophy is held high above his head. The background is filled with confetti and other people celebrating. The word "CHAMPIONS" is visible on the trophy's base.

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